The U.S. Camel Corps

The pioneers leading the march into the American southwest during the 1830s faced parched deserts and other inhospitable conditions. After spending several years on the American frontier, U.S. Army Lieutenant George Crosman proposed a solution: "For strength in carrying burdens, for patient endurance of labor, and privation of food, water, and rest, and in some respects speed also, the camel and dromedary (as the Arabian camel is called) are unrivaled among animals."



Crosman's outlandish suggestion of utilizing camels as beasts of burden was largely ignored by the War Department. Then, in 1847,

Crosman met Major Henry Wayne, another camel enthusiast. Wayne passionately took up the cause, petitioning both the War Department and Congress to import camels for military use. Finally, after years of negotiations and politicking, and with the help of Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, on May 14, 1856, Wayne disembarked from the vessel Supply at Indianola, Texas, with 34 camels. Wayne then moved his herd to Camp Verde, 60 miles northwest of San Antonio, and set up the U.S. Army's first Camel Corps.

Eager to prove the camels' worth, Wayne tested them against a team of mules. The camels made a roundtrip to San Antonio in just two days' time, both moving more than twice as fast as the mules and carrying double the weight. The response from Secretary Davis was enthusiastic. In February of 1857, forty-one more camels arrived at Camp Verde for Wayne to train.

The defining test of the Camel Corps' worth came in June of 1857, when camels were used as part of a surveying expedition ranging from New Mexico to the border of Arizona and California. Expedition leader Edward Beale was skeptical. but by the second week of the journey, he was convinced of the camels' worth, writing: "Certainly there never was anything so patient and enduring and so little troublesome as this noble animal." Alas, the outbreak of the Civil War ended the camel experiment entirely.

Employee of The Month



Lorie Wheeler

Live Entertainment Schedule

May 10th – Jim Neary

May 13th – Keith Dudinski

May 17th - Debbie McCullough

May 22nd – Joe Miltch

May 24th – Don Newcome

May 25th – Kim Pendelberry

May 31st – Jim Culligan

May 2023

What's Happening at Heather Heights

Heather Heights of Pittsford | 160 W. Jefferson Rd | 585.264.1600|



Management Team

Carrie Bardo

Administrator

Tiffany Arnold

Assistant Administrator Business Office Manager

Kellie McManus

Director of Personal Care

Beth McMullen

Nurse Case Manager

Erin Schneider

Recreation Director

Andy Armstrong

Culinary Director

Tony Rivera

Maintenance Director

Mike Lee

Director of Housekeeping & Laundry

Message to the Community

Dear Friends,

At our resident council meeting in March, we discussed having an on-site physical therapy option here at Heather Heights. This is a project that we are looking at completing in the next month or so. Once I have more information or tentative start date, I will post more information as it develops.

This month we are beginning some of our upgrades in and around the community. They have already begun some repairs to our heating and cooling unit so it will be up and running properly by summer. We also have a few other projects planned to include a new sign by the road, new cabinetry in the dining room, parking lot seal and striping, some new recreation pieces along with a new bus. I am very excited to see some of the changes over the next few months.

Love, Carrie

Easter Egg Hunt Winner



A Very Special 100th Birthday

Come celebrate
Betty's 100th
birthday on
Thursday May 4th, at
2:30pm in the ice
cream parlor.

May Birthday's

Residents Betty Cayford – 5/4

Sally Stookey - 5/8
Tom Marchese - 5/12
Donna Hamelink - 5/16
Eileen Smith - 5/19

Staff

Tracy Holcomb - 5/3
Beth McMullen - 5/17
Connie Belpanno - 5/17
Megan McCann - 5/26
Hannah Kay - 5/27
Alisha McKenzie - 5/28



It is being to warm up outside and you will notice there are garden club meetings starting this month! Help us make our home beautiful this spring and join us for some gardening.

May Movie Schedule: Tuesday Evening

May 2nd – The Post May 9th – New of the World May 16th – A Dog's Purpose May 23rd – Everest May 30th – Creed III

Friday Afternoon

May 5th – Betty White Goes Wild May 12th – Expedition China May 19th – From the Ashes May 26th – Kings Ransom

All Entertainment takes place in the main lobby

May Live Entertainment Schedule:

May 10th – Jim Neary
May 13th – Keith Dudinski
May 17th – Debbie McCullough
May 22nd – Joe Miltch
May 24th – Don Newcome
May 25th – Kim Pendleberry
May 31st – Jim Culligan

Wildlife Wonderlands

May is Gardening for Wildlife month, offering plenty of time to plant the flowers, shrubs, and trees that are vital habitat for insects, birds, mammals, and more. Whether you have a city balcony or several acres in the country, the first crucial step to providing habitat for wildlife is to plant native species. These are the flowers, trees, and shrubs that are best suited to survive in the local climate. These species often act as invaluable food sources for wildlife. After all, animals have evolved side-byside with these plant species for millennia. Native plants also provide spaces for animals to hide from predators, take shelter from the elements, and build nests and dens to raise young.

One of the most important contributions native species make is to attract insects. Insects aren't just a food source for animals; they also play a vital role as pollinators. Equally important to a wildlife garden is a water source. This can be a stream or fountain, but a shallow bird bath is often good enough. If you start planting early, you might even spy the endangered monarch butterfly by May 6, Start Seeing Monarchs Day.

Scenic Drives **Every Wednesday!**

Please join us on Wednesday's at 10:30 am and 2 pm for scenic drives with Steve.

Meet in the lobby 15 minutes prior to the start of the ride.



Notable Quotable

"No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle."

~ Winston Churchill, British statesman



May Horoscopes and Birthdays

In astrology, those born from May 1–20 are Taurus' Bulls. Bulls are reliable workers who take a slow-and-steady approach to finishing tasks. They do expect a reward for their hard work and love little indulgences. Those born from May 21–31 are the Twins of Gemini. Energetic and spontaneous, Geminis are great at connecting with others, making them ideal candidates for networking and sales.

Dwayne Johnson – May 2, 1972 Audrey Hepburn – May 4, 1929 George Clooney – May 6, 1961 Don Rickles – May 8, 1926 Fred Astaire – May 10, 1899 Stevie Wonder – May 13, 1950 Cate Blanchett – May 14, 1969 Frank Capra – May 18, 1897 Malcolm X – May 19, 1925 Mr. T – May 21, 1952 Patti LaBelle – May 24, 1944 Ian Fleming – May 28, 1908 Brooke Shields – May 31, 1965

Hold Your Horses (cont. from pg. 3)

Sometimes the most threatened horse breeds are also the most famous. Clydesdales, the big, friendly horses best known for pulling the Budweiser wagon, number less than 5,000 worldwide. These gentle giants are beloved for their beauty and versatility; they are calm and hard-working, equally suited to ride, pull a wagon, or haul timber.

Another critically threatened breed that enjoys a degree of

feral breed that inhabits the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Perhaps the most endangered horse breed of all is the American Cream Draft horse; only 400 exist worldwide. Luckily, many of these horses are actively being saved today through conservation programs. The next time you visit a farm, you might just also be visiting the home of some of the rarest heritage breeds known to agriculture.

fame is the Banker horse, the

A Week for Geeks

The first week of May is celebrated as Geek Week, a week to unabashedly enjoy all things related to geekdom. But what does it mean to be a geek these days? The word *geek* was originally applied to unskilled carnival workers considered to lack any social graces. The word was later applied to computer geeks, or the highly intelligent but socially awkward computer techs who sat in front of a computer screen all day. By the end of the 20th century, geeks were no longer considered social outcasts but now built enormous communities around alternative, pop-cultural touchstones like comic books, fantasy games, the Japanese graphic novels known as *manga*, and science-fiction movies like *Star Wars*.

Geeks have now united to enjoy their non-mainstream fandom together. Perhaps the greatest gatherings in all of Geekdom are Comic Cons, those famous comic-book conventions where geeks dress as their favorite characters and run wild. Page 3

Celebrating May

Adopt a Horse Month

Older Americans Month

May Day
May 1

Star Wars Day May 4

Cinco de Mayo May 5

Salvation Army Week *May 15–21*

Mother's Day May 14

International Museum Day May 18

Victoria Day (Canada) May 22

Memorial Day (U.S.) May 29

Hold Your Horses

Heritage breeds are livestock breeds that were raised in an era before the industrialization of agriculture. These are the chickens, pigs, cattle, sheep, and horses that were selected and bred to thrive on small family farms. Over centuries, these breeds have developed genetic attributes that make them special: resistance to disease and parasites, the ability to forage, longevity, and reliable reproduction. May 15–21, Heritage Breeds Week, is a time to ensure that these rare breeds survive before they are lost forever.

Just as animals in the wild are threatened by habitat loss, heritage breeds are threatened

In It for the Long Haul

The second Saturday in May is celebrated as World Migratory Bird Day. When you get to know some of the world's more impressive migratory birds, you'll understand why this is a worldwide celebration. Consider the Arctic tern, a small bird that flies from pole to pole each year, logging 30,000 miles. To survive this epic journey, terns must find many places to stop along the

by modern agricultural practices that no longer value the genetic diversity of such animals. Many heritage breeds face extinction. And just as biodiversity in the wild ensures the health of an ecosystem, biodiversity in agriculture ensures the health of that entire industry.

Since 2017, the Endangered Equine Alliance has worked tirelessly to secure the diversity of heritage horse breeds.

(cont. on pg. 6)



way throughout Europe, North and South America, and Africa, making it crucial for countries all around the world to provide habitat for these long haulers. With these remarkable birds living up to 30 years, the total life journey of a tern is equivalent to flying round trip three times to the moon and back. That is an epic accomplishment worth celebrating.

Cheese rolling has gone global, with recent winners coming from New Zealand, Egypt, the United States, and Nepal.

A Cheesy Tradition

The rolling hills of Gloucestershire, England, are usually quiet, except on the last Monday in May when the locals participate in one of the world's wildest competitions: the annual Cheese-Rolling at Cooper's Hill. These are the famous cheese races, where men and women, young and old, chase a nine-pound wheel of Double Gloucester cheese down a precipitous hill. The first one to catch the wheel wins the cheese, but the cheese rolls so fast—up to 70 mph!—that this almost never happens. Instead, the first one to cross the finish line is usually declared the winner.

The most famous aspect of the race is not the cheese, but Cooper's Hill. This hill is so steep and treacherous that every year injuries occur. In 2007, in a notoriously wet and windy race, 20-year-old Christopher Anderson tumbled head-over-heels across the finish line and fell unconscious. When he awoke, miraculously unhurt, he learned that he had won a victory worth its weight in cheese.

Written records date the cheese-rolling in Gloucestershire back 200 years, but even then, it was considered an old tradition, with some claiming that it began in the 1400s. Since 1988, the cheese has been handmade by local cheesemaker Diana Smart, using milk from her own Brown Swiss, Holstein, and Gloucester cows at Churcham farm. Her cheese wheels are housed in a protective wooden casing and then wrapped in traditional blue and red ribbons. Between 1941 and 1954, due to food rationing during World War II, a wooden cheese was used. The largest cheese ever rolled was a 40-pound cheddar donated by New Zealand in 1958.



Julia Ward Howe earned the nickname the "Dearest Old Lady in America."

Mother's Peace Day

Anna Jarvis is often credited with founding the first Mother's Day, in 1908, but it was poet and abolitionist Julia Ward Howe who made the first Mother's Day Proclamation for Peace, in 1870. Howe was already well known for authoring "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and her fame lent greater weight to her advocacy for peace. As a nurse during the American Civil War, Howe had seen firsthand the ravages of war. When she saw the specter

of war rising yet again at the onset of the Franco-Prussian War, she spoke out for an international Mother's Day where mothers from all over the world would give counsel on how to achieve peace. She wrote: "Arise, then, women of this day! Arise all women who have hearts, whether our baptism be that of water or of tears!" Indeed, Anna Jarvis' mother had worked with Julia Ward Howe, a relationship that inspired Jarvis' Mother's Day.

Berry Pleasing



Ancient Romans used strawberries to treat depression, fever, and sore throats. Peak season for picking strawberries is April, which makes May, as Strawberry Month, the perfect time to enjoy these luscious, red berries.

In ancient Rome, strawberries were a symbol of Venus, the goddess of love and beauty, thanks to their heart shape and red color. In myth, strawberries were linked to the death of the

beautiful youth Adonis. He was gored to death by a boar in a hunting accident, which broke Venus' heart. As she cried for her lost love, her tears mingled with Adonis' blood, and when they hit the ground, they turned into strawberries. Ever since, strawberries have long been associated with love, purity, and perfection. No wonder they are a perfect May snack!

The Milwaukee Bridge War



The mismatched layout of city streets in Milwaukee persists to this day.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, began as three separate settlements, each named for its founder. Juneautown, east of the Milwaukee River, was settled by Solomon Juneau in 1818. West of the river was Kilbourntown, an area settled by Byron Kilbourn 16 years later in 1834. Each man believed his settlement to be the center of Milwaukee, and tensions between the settlements ran high until the Milwaukee Bridge War erupted on May 3, 1845.

Kilbourn made the first move in 1835 when he laid out a street grid west of the river that completely ignored the existing grid in Juneautown to the east. Kilbourn's maps showed Juneautown as a blank, undeveloped space, an assertion he continued to make to the steamship captains traveling upriver to deliver vital goods to his westside outpost. Kilbourn's ploy was clear: isolate Juneautown and make it reliant on a superior Kilbourntown.

Despite Kilbourn's efforts,
Juneautown remained the most
populous of the Milwaukee
settlements. Hostilities between
the neighborhoods persisted
even as bridges were built over
the Milwaukee River to connect
the competing districts, until
May 3, 1845, when a schooner
rammed and partially wrecked
a Kilbourn-supported bridge at
Spring Street.

Kilbournians accused the Juneaus of bribing the captain. They retaliated by damaging a bridge important to Juneautown. The Kilbournians also dismantled another Juneautown bridge for spare parts to fix their own, causing that bridge to collapse. In less than a month, four of the town's five bridges were destroyed. Throughout the summer, both sides armed themselves and prepared for battle. Miraculously, tensions calmed. Three new bridges were built under armed guard, and in January of 1846, the city of Milwaukee was formed.