

June 2019

New Haven Tomball

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Celebrating June

Beautiful in Your Skin Month

Soul Food Month

Lemonade Days

June 1–9

World Bicycle Day

June 3

Banana Split Days

June 7–8

Roller Coaster Day

June 13

Father's Day

June 16

World Music Day

June 21

Social Media Day

June 30

The Magnificent Abyss

June is World Ocean Month, a time to celebrate everything in and under the sea. What would our world be without the ocean? The ocean produces over half of the air we breathe. Covering 70% of the planet's surface, the ocean's currents distribute heat all around the globe, regulating both the world's climate and weather patterns. And although 95% of the ocean remains unexplored, it is home to over two million different species, including the largest animal ever known to have existed on Earth.

The blue whale, capable of growing to almost 100 feet long and weighing in at 190 tons, is larger by far than any dinosaur that ever walked the earth. This massive creature relies on one of the ocean's smallest animals for its chief food source. The blue whale eats krill, those tiny two-inch-long, shrimp-like crustaceans that swarm by the tens of thousands. That the world's largest animal should rely on one of the smallest should not come as a surprise, for this is just another example of Earth's great symbiosis. Whether on land or in the sea, all organisms are interdependent on each other for their survival.

The vast diversity of life in our oceans is astounding. Large and charismatic animals such as whales, sharks, dolphins, rays, walruses, and seals get the lion's share of attention. Tourist hotspots such as reefs, beaches, and lagoons along the coasts draw visitors. But the mystery of the ocean lies in its vast depths. Humans are most familiar with the upper ocean, perhaps the top 500 feet. What is astounding is that the average depth of the ocean is over 13,000 feet deep. That's as high as the peaks of the Rocky Mountains! So what mysteries lie at those unplumbed depths? Scientists have discovered sea anemones and upside-down swimming fish under ice sheets, coral reefs off Greenland, and new species of shrimp and sponges near underwater sea vents. Who is to say that mermaids do not exist, given the fact that so many parts of the ocean have been unexplored?

Rope Dancers Over Niagara

On the morning of June 30, 1859, an audience of 25,000 swarmed both the American and Canadian sides of Niagara Falls to gawk at a French acrobat named Jean Francois Gravelet, better known by his stage name of Monsieur Charles Blondin. Blondin was going to attempt the absurd feat of walking across the Niagara River gorge over the roaring falls.



The Great Blondin had arrived months earlier in the hopes of making the crossing during the winter. Snow, ice, and deadly gusts of winds had convinced

him to return in the summer. His crossing was described as the act of a madman, but Blondin had been tightrope walking since the age of four. He believed it was his natural calling in life. Standing only five-foot-five and weighing 140 pounds, he was described by his manager as “more like a fantastic sprite than a human being.” He was also a fantastic showman. He stepped out onto the hempen cable with the aid of a 26-foot long pole. Spectators gasped when he sat down on the rope after walking only one-third of the way across and called for one of the tourist boats, the *Maid of the Mist*, to anchor beneath him. He lowered a rope and hauled up a bottle of wine, from which he poured himself a glass and had a drink. When he reached the other side, he turned around to walk back again, this time hauling a daguerreotype camera! He again paused in the middle of his balancing act, this time to set up the camera to snap a picture of the crowd on the American side. The Great Blondin’s fame skyrocketed overnight, and he would return to Niagara again and again, with his highwire stunts becoming ever more absurd. It is estimated that he made the crossing 300 times over his lifetime.

The Great Blondin’s feats over Niagara were by no means the last. As recently as June 15, 2012, an aerialist by the name of Nik Wallenda crossed over Niagara on a two-inch-wide wire—but he crossed directly over the falls as opposed to farther down the gorge, entering the history books as the first person to do so.

Employee of the Month



We would like to grant our appreciation to Stephanie for all her spectacular work and dedication to New Haven Assisted Living & Memory Care of Tomball. Stephanie is great about going above and beyond when it comes to helping with daily activities and helping when needed with getting the meals to the residents. The staff wants to thank you very much for your hard work and dedication to your New Haven Family. We also want to wish her a happy birthday this month, June 25th!

Happy Birthday to Whom?



On June 27, 1859, a schoolteacher named Mildred J. Hill composed a tune she called “Good Morning to All.” Her younger sister, Patty Hill, wrote some cheerful lyrics that the two could sing to their students upon their arrival at school. In 1924, however, the song underwent a dramatic change. A verse was added with the line “Happy birthday to you.” Soon, it became the most popular song in the world, sung on everyone’s birthday. Yet the song was never credited or copyrighted. In 1935, the Summy Company decided to register a copyright to the song, and then in 1988, Warner/Chappell Music purchased the company owning the copyright, claiming ownership of the song. While Warner/Chappell claims that a royalty of \$700 is owed each time the song is sung, no one is going to let an exorbitant fee like that spoil the pleasure of singing “Happy Birthday to You” at a loved one’s birthday party.

Something to Smile About



To humans, a smile is a universal sign of happiness and friendship. So don't be afraid to show your pearly whites this month, because June is Smile Month.

Throughout most of the animal world, the baring of teeth is often a sign of threat or aggression. Baboons, for example, are known to bare their teeth in shows of force. Some primates, though, bare their teeth as a show of submissiveness. Biologists believe that this behavior may be where the story of the human smile begins.

Humans are the only species that uses the smile, in various forms, to demonstrate happiness. Even visually impaired children who have never seen a smile show the same kinds of smiles that sighted people do. This tells us that smiling is something preprogrammed into humans. This behavior is not learned but instinctual.

Biologists speculate that amongst primates, because teeth are still used for biting, to bare them is naturally an aggressive warning of an impending bite. Humans, however, have evolved other means of aggression that have nothing to do with teeth. Teeth, instead, have become associated with laughing and eating, both of which are incredibly powerful forms of social bonding. In fact, anthropologist and evolutionary psychologist Robin Dunbar asserts that laughter has taken the place of grooming as one of our primary means of social bonding. By this measure, laughter and showing our teeth may be one of the most powerful social cues we humans have in our social arsenal.

We smile when we are happy, but can forcing ourselves to smile make us feel happy even when we are not? Neurologists have discovered that the physical act of smiling triggers chemical reactions in the brain that boost our moods, lower stress, and even strengthen our immune systems. So don't just smile during the month of June; do it all year round!

June Birthdays

In astrology, those born June 1–20 are Gemini's Twins. Twins seem to have two personalities and can blend into any situation. They have an energetic and fun-loving side that is the life of the party, but also a deep and emotional side that needs love and nurturing. Those born June 21–30 are the Crabs of Cancer. Guided by their hearts, Crabs are emotional and nurturing. They create deep bonds and comfortable homes and are always willing to welcome people into their circle.

Marilyn Monroe (actress) – June 1, 1926
Josephine Baker (entertainer) – June 3, 1906
Tom Jones (singer) – June 7, 1940
Frank Lloyd Wright (architect) – June 8, 1867
Harriet Beecher Stowe (author) – June 14, 1811
Igor Stravinsky (composer) – June 17, 1882
Lionel Ritchie (singer) – June 20, 1950
Octavia Butler (writer) – June 22, 1947
Pearl S. Buck (writer) – June 26, 1892
John Elway (quarterback) – June 28, 1960

MONTHLY EVENTS

Every Tuesday
BINGO

June 12th
ACTIVITIES WITH ALAMO
HOSPICE

DAILY EVENTS

DAILY EXERCISE CLASS @ 10:30

BREAKFAST 8:00
LUNCH 12:00
DINNER 5:00