AUGUST NEWSLETTER

 

Have you ever wondered how the months of the year got their names?  Actually, the months’ names reflect a mixture of gods, goddesses, rulers, and numbers.  The first Roman Calendar was adopted from the Greek lunar calendar.  It had only 10 months, beginning with the spring month of Marius (March).

It was followed by Aprilis (April), Maius (May), Junius (June), Quintilis (meaning fifth), Sextilis (sixth), September (seventh), October (eighth), November (ninth), and December (tenth).  All of this made sense until sometime at the end of the seventh century BC, when the Roman emperor Numa Pompilius added two extra months to bring the lunar calendar back in line with the solar seasons.  The new months that he added were Januarius (January) and Februarius (February) which later became the first and second months.  When he added these two months it made the names Quintilis through December seem foolish.  Later on, two other Roman emperors, Julius Caesar and Augustus Caesar, renamed Quintilis and Sextilis after themselves.  The two months became Julius (July) and Augustus (August).



By the time Julius Casesar came to power in 46 B.C., the calendar needed major adjustment.  After consulting a Greek astronomer named Sosigenes, Caesar ordered the following changes to the Roman calendar: 

* The lunar calendar would be replaced with a solar one.
* The year would have 365¼ days instead of 365.
* The year would begin in January and have twelve months of fixed length.
* An extra day would be added ever four years in the month of February.
* The months of January, March, May, July, September, and November would all have thirty-one days. All the other months would have thirty except February, which would have twenty-eight or twenty-nine.

In order to restore the seasons to their proper places, Julius Caesar added eighty days to the current year.  So, the year 46 B.C. had 445 days.  It became known as Annus Confusionus – The Year of Confusion!  

Augustus was born Gaius Octavius Thurinus in 63 B.C.E.  Historians refer to him as Octavian.  In 27 B.C., the emperor Augustus became the ruler of Rome after Julius Caesar’s death.  Octavian was adopted by Julius Caesar, who in turn changed his name to Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus.  Octavian rejected all titles such as king or emperor.  The most he would agree to be called was Augustus, meaning “honored” or “revered one.”

The month of August got its name from the Ancient Romans who named this month for Augustus Caesar.  Augustus made adjustments to the calendar since the extra day that was supposed to be every four years was actually every three years.  He also named August after himself since Julius Caesar named July after himself.  Since July had 31 days, Augustus borrowed a day from February making it a 28-day month.  He also changed September and November to thirty days and gave October and December 31 days.

August is usually the hottest month of the year in most of the United States and Canada.  It’s a great month to head to the beach or the woods to cool off.  It’s also a month with no national holidays.  However, we do have the following dates to celebrate during the month of August.



**National Mustard Day**

First Saturday – The Mustard Museum began sponsoring National Mustard Day in 1991.  In 2010, the event moved to the current home of the Museum in Downtown Middleton, Wisconsin.  With more than 6,000 enthusiastic mustard lovers in attendance annually, this event has raised thousands of dollars for local charity.



**National Watermelon Day**

August 3rd — National Watermelon Day recognizes the refreshing summertime treat enjoyed by so many at picnics and fairs.  Since watermelon is 92% water, it is very satisfying in the summer heat.



**Wiggle-Your-Toes-Day**

August 6th – National Wiggle Your Toes Day offers people the chance to show off the digits on their feet.  The day encourages giving our feet (and our toes) a little extra attention.



**Left-handers’ Day**

August 13th – I’m so glad we have this day as I’m left-handed.  This day is a chance to tell your family and friends how proud you are of being left-handed, and also raise awareness of the everyday issues that lefties face as we live a world designed for right-handers.



**National Aviation Day**

August 19th – This is the day to honor the people who invented airplanes, as well as other flying heroes.  Brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first airplane flight in December 1903.  They were the first to figure out the right shape for wings.  Their engine powered them into the sky.  And they created the ways that airplanes are steered.  Why August 19th you ask?  That was Orville Wright’s birthday.



**National Radio Day**

August 20th – This day recognizes the great invention of the radio.  Celebrate the news, information, music, and stories carried across the airwaves.  Several inventors had a part in the invention of the radio in the late 1800s.  Amazingly, not just one person can be credited with its beginning.



**Senior Citizen’s Day**

August 21st – President Ronald Reagan took the initiative to honor seniors in 1988 when he signed Proclamation 5847 and marked this day as the day seniors will be celebrated.  “Throughout our history, older people have achieved much for our families, our communities, and our country.”



**National Banana Split Day**

August 25th – David Strickler’s hometown of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, proudly celebrates his creation with a festival every year.  In 2013, they placed an official marker at the site of the pharmacy where Strickler first made his famous banana split.  Then, the United States Post Office honored the banana split and town of Latrobe in 2016 with a 47-cent “forever stamp” depicting the banana split.  It was one of five stamps in the “Soda Fountain Favorites” series.  For a time, Latrobe residents could receive a cancellation mark memorializing their claim to fame.



**National Dog Day**

August 26th – Celebrated annually and was founded in 2004 by Pet & Family Lifestyle Expert, Animal Rescue Advocate, Conservationist, Dog Trainer and Author, Colleen Paige.  She is also the founder of many other holidays such as National Puppy Day, National Mutt Day, National Cat Day, National Wildlife Day and many more philanthropic days to bring attention to the plight of animals around the world and encourage adoption.



**Toasted Marshmallow Day**

August 30th – Believe it or not, marshmallows date back to Ancient Egypt.  The mallow plant provided a sap the Egyptians used to create a candy with nuts and honey.  Ligonier, Indiana, holds an annual Marshmallow Festival.  It is also the marshmallow capital of the world.  How sweet is that?



**National Trail Mix Day**

August 31st – An ideal hike snack food because it is lightweight, easy to store, nutritious and provides a quick energy boost from the carbohydrates in the dried fruits or granola as well as sustained energy from the fats in the nuts.  It is claimed by some that the trail mix was invented in 1968 by two California surfers who blended peanuts and raisins together for an energy snack.  However, in the 1958 novel *The Dharma Bums*, written by Jack Kerouac, trail mix is mentioned when the two main characters describe the planned meals in preparation for their hiking trip.



The kids will be heading back to school this month, please allow yourself extra time to get out around. The children will be waiting on buses or walking to school and they don’t always pay attention to traffic. Take your time and watch out for the little ones!



 LOCAL NEWS

* Are you in need of grocery delivery service? Call 620-228-5570 for more information on this new service.

**If you need assistance after-hours please call the Iola Dispatch Center at (620) 365-1437, they will notify the proper personnel.**

 *HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL LAHARPE CITIZENS CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH!!!! MAY YOUR DAY BE AS SPECIAL AS YOU ARE TO US!*



**ACTIVITIES FOR AUGUST**

**AUGUST 1ST**

Magnetic Picture Frame Making @ 2pm

**AUGUST 5TH**

Diamond Painting Class @ 6pm

**AUGUST 6TH**

Walk & Talk @ 10am

**AUGUST 8TH**

Hatch Hook Class @ 2pm

**AUGUST 12TH**

Crockpot One Dish Meal @ 6pm

**AUGUST 13TH**

Walk & Talk @ 10am

**AUGUST 14TH**

Crafts @ 2pm

**AUGUST 19TH**

Rock Painting @ 2pm

**AUGUST 20TH**

Walk & Talk @ 10am

**AUGUST 21ST**

Crochet For Beginners @ 6pm

**AUGUST 26TH**

Game Night @ 6pm

**AUGUST 27TH**

Walk & Talk @ 10am

**AUGUST 28TH**

Crafts @ 2pm

*You can follow our health & wellness director on Facebook: La Harpe Health & Wellness. Kathy will share weekly brain teasers, hygiene facts and healthy quick meals. Don’t have access to Facebook, please let us know and we will find a way to get you the information.*

**Dates to remember:**

A group of people sitting around a table

Description automatically generated with low confidenceAugust 14th: Council Meeting at City Hall at 7:00 pm

A picture containing text, lined

Description automatically generated August 19th: PRIDE Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiI3_mmgoLLAhVW9mMKHe22Ar8QjRwIBw&url=http://www.paymentus.com/industry-utilities.html&psig=AFQjCNF-5ANx5SktbJug46KiWwMehsjzzw&ust=1455908868261283) August 27th: **Past due Utility shut off date.**

*If you can’t pay your account in* ***full*** *at this time then you must submit your reasoning to the City Clerk* ***BEFORE*** *August 26th.*

**CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

**CITIZENS CALL FOR BUSINESS**

No citizens call for business.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Mullins variance – Penny Miller submitted the request to the council; after reviewing, Ron Knavel made the motion to grant the variance for 2 horses. Danny Ware Jr seconded. Motion carried 3-1, Sharlyn Thompson opposed.
2. Pempkes Tree Service – Tabled until a later date.
3. Old Sewer Plant – Mayor Crowell stated Gas City does not want to get rid of it but they don’t want it gifted either. Mayor Crowell said she will keep on them about it.
4. Tornado sirens – Mayor Crowell stated that Joe has been checking into this so that La Harpe has control over when a storm comes our way. Danny Ware Jr asked why they can’t sound each community separately. Mayor Crowell stated, it’s up to the Iola Chief of police to make the decision to sound the alarm. Joe Stotler stated we can have control of our own but it would cost the city around $800.00 to have access to the system. Mayor Crowell stated that Sheriff Murphy said each town should be able to be sounded separately but she wasn’t for sure on that. Cynthia Carr asked if it could be tested. Danny Ware Jr suggested someone talk to FEMA and the county commissioners, instead of paying $800.00 we need to first find out more information and if it’s something the city can have control over. Danny also suggested having Fred look at the agreement we have with Iola.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. EMC Dividend Check – Michelle shared a copy of this year’s dividend check in the amount of $3,618.19. Mayor Crowell stated it is a little less than normal but at least we got something back.
2. Tire Quotes for the 2010 F250 – 4 bids were submitted; Ken Pratt Motors – replacing shocks and tires for $876.00, Mike Manbeck – replacing shocks only for $525.00, Sigg Tire & Repair – replacing shocks and tires for $890.00 and Quality Auto – replacing shocks only - $702.42. Mayor Crowell suggested Ken Pratt do the tires and Mike Manbeck do the shocks for $801.00. Cynthia Carr made the motion to have Ken Pratt Motors do the work for $876.00. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

1. Fred Works, City Attorney – Absent from meeting
2. Roy Caler, Water Representative – Nothing to report.
3. Joe Stotler, Police Chief – Shared his monthly time cards and report. He asked the council if they would be willing to have a property gifted to them. This is a property that we tried to purchase at the tax sale but was outbid and the owner is in court for this property and just can’t afford to keep dumping money into. She is requesting 60 days to remove 2 sheds and some lumber. The council had no problem with that and suggested Fred work up a quit claim deed. Joe stated the city would have to tear down what is left of the mobile home or hire it out. Penny Miller stated, there is not much left and the city could probably do it and save the money. Danny Ware Jr made the motion to have the property gifted to the city with a deed from Fred and allow her 60 days to remove the buildings and lumber. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Penny Miller, Code/Animal Control –Shared her monthly reports. Mayor Crowell thanked Penny for stepping up and pitching in with maintenance.
5. Marc Waggoner, Fire Chief- Had nothing to report but shared the fire meeting minutes; The La Harpe Volunteer Fire Department met for the monthly meeting. Present: Josh Sparks, Marc Waggoner Sr., Ronald Splector, Kiefer Endicott, Bill Gay, Matthew Waggoner, Dennis Sidebottom, and Meghan Sparks. Absent were, Pamela Waggoner and Justin Pritchard. La Harpe firefighters were at La Harpe Days and helped with rides, dunk tank, water sprinkler and other stuff. We used this as our June meeting.
6. Maintenance Department - The workorders were shared. Mayor Crowell stated the crew has been very busy with locates and water line breaks. Ron Knavel suggested the work orders just have one master copy each month. Mayor Crowell asked Michelle to make a cover sheet for all council members but only make one copy of the workorders and they can be reviewed when they come in to look at bills. Larry Laird mentioned a whistle on 11th street that was decaying at the bottom and needs to be addressed but it’s probably a 2–3-foot whistle. Michelle suggested looking at Ray’s and Danny Ware Jr asked if it could be filled on the bottom. Larry didn’t think that would fix the issue. Mayor Crowell suggested Larry keep looking into it.
7. Michelle Altis, City Clerk – Reminded the council of the upcoming budget meeting on Monday, July 15th at 6:00pm.

**DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS –**

Mayor Crowell requested a motion to go into executive session on non-elected personnel for 5 minutes. Cynthia Carr made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes on non-elected personnel and resume at 7:55pm. Danny Ware Jr seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

After returning to regular session Mayor Crowell asked Joe where he was with the lettering on the police car. She reminded him that it needs to be identified as our car and not a state vehicle. Cynthia Carr suggested lettering on top of the windshield so those that are stopped can look in the rearview mirror and see it is law enforcement and not someone pretending to be. Joe stated that would work because of the light bar being there. Joe said he found lettering for about $200.00 and he also had a quote for a door wrap that was $800.00 - $1,000.00. Cynthia Carr suggested he look into more pricing.



***Mayor****: Ella Mae Crowell (620) 496-6219*

***City Attorney****: Fred Works*

***City Municipal Judge****: Patty Miklos*

***Police Chief****: Joseph Stotler*

***Fire Chief****: Marc Waggoner*

***Assistant Fire Chief****: Dennis Sidebottom*

***City Clerk****: Michelle Altis*

***Assistant Clerk****: Teresa Driskel*

***City Treasurer****: Audra Riggins*

***Maintenance Staff****: Travis Doolittle & Larry Laird*

***Code & Animal Control****: Penny Miller*

***City Council Members:***

***Austin Lee (496-2323) Danny Ware Jr. (496-2156)***

***Cynthia Carr (496-7500) Sharlyn Thompson (496-3348)***

***Ron Knavel (496-2508)***

***Laharpe City Hall Hours: Monday-Friday***

902 S. Washington 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-5:00

P.O. Box 10 Ph. (620) 496-2241

Laharpe, KS. 66751 Fax (620) 496-2240

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**Farmer’s Casserole**

**Ingredients**

* 3 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes
* 3/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
* 1 cup cubed fully cooked ham
* 1/4 cup chopped green onions
* 4 large eggs
* 1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
* 1/4 teaspoon pepper
* 1/8 teaspoon salt

**Directions**

* 1. Place potatoes in an 8-in. baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese, ham and onions. Whisk eggs, milk, pepper and salt; pour over top. Cover and refrigerate for several hours or overnight.
* 2. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Preheat oven to 350°. Bake, uncovered, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean, 55-60 minutes.

# Grandma’s Honey Muffins

**Grandma’s Honey Muffins**

**Ingredients**

* 2 cups all-purpose flour
* 1/2 cup sugar
* 3 teaspoons baking powder
* 1/2 teaspoon salt
* 1 large egg, room temperature
* 1 cup 2% milk
* 1/4 cup butter, melted
* 1/4 cup honey

**Directions**

* 1. Preheat oven to 400°. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. In a small bowl, combine egg, milk, butter and honey. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened.
* 2. Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups three-fourths full. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 15-18 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack. Serve warm.

### Company Fruit Salad

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**Ingredients**

* 4 medium Golden Delicious apples, diced
* 4 medium Red Delicious apples, diced
* 2 cups seedless green grapes, halved
* 2 cups seedless red grapes, halved
* 1 can (20 ounces) pineapple chunks, drained
* 1 can (11 ounces) mandarin oranges, drained
* **DRESSING:**
* 3 ounces cream cheese, softened
* 1/2 cup sour cream
* 1/2 cup mayonnaise
* 1/2 cup sugar

**Directions**

* 1. In a large bowl, combine the first 6 ingredients. In a small bowl, beat dressing ingredients until smooth. Pour over fruit; toss gently to coat.