

## A Walk Through History

On July 1, 1979, the Japanese technology company Sony introduced its Walkman portable cassette player to the world, an innovation that would forever change the way we enjoy music.



Plenty of portable cassette-tape players were available in 1979, but none of them were designed to be used by individuals walking around. The cassette tape, developed in 1963, allowed people to listen to tapes in their cars or on large cassette players. Sony itself sold the bulky TC-D5 cassette player, but company cofounder Masaru Ibuka was not satisfied. He wanted a truly personal and portable system optimized for playback while he was out and about, especially when he was traveling on long business flights.

Norio Ohga, Sony's executive deputy president, got to work with engineer Kozo Ohson. Soon, Ohson had invented both a new cassette player and a pair of lightweight headphones with fantastic sound quality. The invention was better than anything Sony could have hoped for. Sony Chairman Akio Morita declared, "It'll be a hit!" Now, all Sony needed was a name.

At first, the cassette player was called by many names. In the U.S., marketers wanted to call it the Sound-About. In the U.K., it was the Stowaway. Marketers decided that too many names in too many countries would be confusing, so Sony finally decided on the Walkman.

In June of 1979, Sony invited a group of journalists to Yoyogi park in Tokyo, where they were each given a Walkman to wear. The journalists strolled the park while listening to various demonstrations on the device. Needless to say, it was an instant hit. Sony thought it would sell 5,000 Walkmans in the first month. It soon sold 50,000! The device's unique combination of excellent sound quality and privacy (thanks to its headphones) was unprecedented. The Walkman's popularity led to a boost in cassette sales and even exercise, now that people wanted to get outside and listen to music on the go.

## July Birthdays

In astrology, those born July 1–22 are the Crabs of Cancer. Guided by their hearts, Crabs are emotional and nurturing. They create deep bonds with friends and comfortable homes that are warm and welcoming. Those born from July 23–31 are Leo's Lions. Leos are creative and charismatic. These natural-born leaders march to the beat of their own drum and aren't afraid to take initiative.

- Tom Cruise (actor) – July 3, 1962
- Bill Withers (musician) – July 4, 1938
- Mavis Staples (singer) – July 10, 1939
- Harrison Ford (actor) – July 13, 1942
- Ginger Rogers (dancer) – July 16, 1911
- Nelson Mandela (politician) – July 18, 1918
- Carlos Santana (musician) – July 20, 1947
- George Clinton (musician) – July 22, 1941
- Jennifer Lopez (singer) – July 24, 1969
- Curt Gowdy (sportscaster) – July 31, 1919

## Mongolia's Manly Games



Each year, from July 11–13, Mongolian civilization pauses for Naadam, the festival of the "Three Manly Games." Horse racing, wrestling, and archery have been inextricably tied to Mongolian nomadic culture for centuries, since before the reign of Genghis Khan. In ancient times, Mongolian kings and generals used these three sports to train their armies. Today, Naadam is a celebration of all things Mongolian. The games themselves provide a fantastic spectacle of competition and national pride, but alongside the sports, visitors find traditional Mongolian food, performances, crafts, poetry, and music. And while the games might be called "manly," women often participate in horse racing and archery. Why do women not wrestle? One legend tells of how a woman beat all the men in wrestling. To prevent further humiliation of men, women were barred from the sport.

# YOUR LETTERHEAD

Name of your community | Address | Phone number | Other information



## Celebrating July

**Family Reunion Month**

**Park and Recreation Month**

**World Watercolor Month**

**Canada Day**

*July 1*

**Air Conditioning  
Appreciation Days**

*July 3–31*

**Independence Day (U.S.)**

*July 4*

**Swimming Pool Day**

*July 11*

**Bastille Day (France)**

*July 14*

**Muharram  
(Islamic New Year)**

*Begins at sundown  
on July 18*

**Hammock Day**

*July 22*

**World Nature  
Conservation Day**

*July 28*

## Meet Our Team!



**Becky Geiger**  
Executive Director



**Michelle Itken**  
Director of Nursing



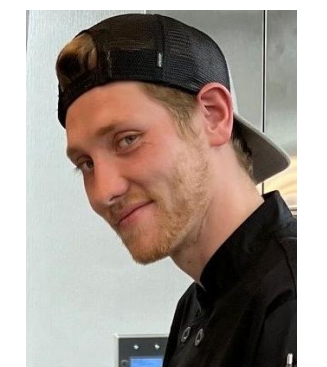
**Mindy Dodd**  
Activity Director



**BreShanda**  
Caregiver  
Supervisor/Schedule



**Ashley Houzenga**  
Office Manager

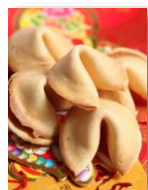


**Taylor Mathes**  
Dining Director



## Good Fortune

No meal at a Chinese restaurant is complete without the obligatory fortune cookie to finish the experience. However, there is nothing inherently Chinese about fortune cookies. The crisp vanilla cookies were invented in California around 1915, but just who invented them is up for debate—a debate we hope to resolve before July 20, Fortune Cookie Day.



Modern-day fortune cookies might have been inspired by a real-life Chinese historical figure. In the 14th century, Chinese revolutionary Chu Yuan Chang led a band of rebels against the Mongols. Disguised as a Taoist priest, Chu entered the walls of cities occupied by the Mongols to hand out traditional moon cakes to the locals. Moon cakes were made with lotus nut paste, an ingredient that the Mongols never liked. Knowing that the Mongols would never taste a moon cake, Chu hid messages inside them detailing his strategies to rise against the Mongols. It is believed that the first fortune cookies were born from this ancient practice of hiding messages in moon cakes.

Fast forward to San Francisco in 1914, where Japanese immigrant Makoto Hagiwara ran his famous Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. After the anti-Japanese mayor of San Francisco attempted to remove Hagiwara from his position, Hagiwara showed his appreciation to friends who stood by him by hiding well wishes inside a cookie. Hagiwara's "fortune cookies" became a staple at the Japanese Tea Garden.

Or perhaps the credit goes to Chinese immigrant David Jung, founder of Los Angeles' Hong Kong Noodle Company. Jung claims to have created the cookie in 1918. So saddened by the unemployed people wandering the streets of Los Angeles, he invented a cookie that held inspirational Bible passages on small strips of paper.

Fortune has favored Hagiwara. In 1983, the unofficial Court of Historical Review in San Francisco ruled Hagiwara the rightful inventor of the fortune cookie.

## Hardscrabble Life

From July 15–19, Las Vegas, Nevada, will host one of the most consequential and cutthroat competitions in the world: the 2023 Scrabble Players Championship. The competition is so stiff that Scrabble enthusiasts declare the entire week Scrabble Week.

Anyone who has played Scrabble with a serious player knows how frustrating it can be. After all, many words are allowed in the game that we don't use in common language. This is where the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary comes in. This dictionary is loaded with words players can use during play, even little-known words like *atemoya*, a "Central and South American fruit," and *sthenia*, "a condition of abnormal strength or vitality," to name a couple. For years, it was even legal to play terms that are offensive, such as racial slurs and profanity. As recently as 2021, a list of banned words was released, an act that some players lauded as morally just and others decried as ruining the game.

## Unlucky July



According to folklore, it is unlucky to wed in July. This nuptial inauspiciousness comes from several old rhymes and sayings. One goes: "Marry when June roses blow; Over land and sea you'll go. Those who in July do wed must labour for their daily bread." An American saying from the 1930s says that July weddings lead to marriages that "are apt to be crisscrossed with sun and shadow." One saying even pinpoints weddings held on July 4, warning couples that they "will live a life that is largely homeless." Over the centuries, it seems that people have looked for any reason to predict the fate of a marriage. And the superstition about lucky months doesn't stop at marriage, either. Ancient Romans advised against being born in May. In 15th-century Europe, Christians thought January was unlucky. Of course, these superstitions are largely baseless.

## Meet Our Team!



Felicia  
Caregiver



Jalynn  
Caregiver



Sydnee  
Caregiver



E'Mya  
Caregiver



Anna  
Caregiver



Ryan  
Cook

## One Wrong Makes a Right

Douglas Corrigan lived during the earliest era of flight, and he joined a band of pilots seeking fame for their flying prowess. In 1927, Charles Lindbergh famously became the first man to fly across the Atlantic. Young Corrigan was a mechanic on Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis*. He followed in Lindbergh's footsteps when, in 1938, he rebuilt an old plane and flew nonstop from California to New York. The cross-country trip was not remarkable, as it had been piloted before, but the press was nevertheless impressed that such a journey could be made in such an old and unreliable aircraft.

After landing in New York, Corrigan planned to continue across the Atlantic. His hopes were dashed when authorities denied him the chance in such a rickety old plane. Corrigan decided to head back to California. On July 17, he lifted off and headed west. But after a few minutes, he turned his plane east! 28 hours later, Corrigan landed in Dublin, Ireland, claiming that he had gotten lost in the clouds and his instruments had stopped working. While most everyone knew this was a ruse, the papers called him "Wrong-Way" Corrigan, and he became a national celebrity.

## Canned Heat Down Under



Since 1974, Mindil Beach in Darwin, Australia, has hosted the Beer Can Regatta. Sunday, July 16, the antics will resume when 60 boats made of old beer cans will attempt to float for the amusement of the 22,000 spectators. The event was first conceived in 1974 as a way to clean up the many aluminum cans littering the streets of Darwin. Over the past several decades, the Regatta has become Darwin's most iconic event. Repeat participants spend the entire year gathering cans (and drinking copious amounts), and they test and retest methods to create maximum buoyancy. One boat used 30,000 cans and held 87 people!