

For the Love of Reading

While couples are courting each other with the perfect valentines on February 14, local libraries are wooing their local communities on Library Lovers' Day. Citizens have always appreciated their local libraries, but on this day, libraries show that the feeling is mutual.



Library patrons, how do your libraries love thee? Let us count the ways. One library hosted a couple that renewed their wedding vows after 40 years of marriage. Another library held a "blind date with a book" party, where borrowers were hooked up with mystery books. The staff

of another library dressed up as characters from Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice*, held a tea party for borrowers, and read excerpts from the book.

Why do we develop such emotional connections with books? Is it because we love learning new things? Books can teach us anything and everything, from cooking to space travel to macroeconomics. Do we love the way they inspire our imagination to take flight? We think we have only one life to live, but through books we inhabit other lives and even other worlds. Reading allows us to explore an infinite variety of paths in life. Reading is not a passive act but an intensely challenging mental act. It is as good for our brains as exercise is for our bodies. Regardless of your reason for loving books, instead of taking your loved one out to a restaurant this Valentine's Day, consider taking them to a library.

Looking for more reasons to indulge your love of literature? February 9 is Read in the Tub Day. How do you keep the pages from getting wet? Simply place a plank or caddy over the tub to rest your book and your rubber ducky on. Just remember not to take those library books into the bath with you!

February Birthdays

If you were born between February 1–18, you are an Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Aquarians are loyal and smart humanitarians who want to make a difference in the world. They are energetic, have inquisitive minds, and come up with creative solutions. Those born from February 19–29 are Pisces, the Fish. Like fish, Pisces like to go with the flow in an easygoing manner, but on the inside, they are intuitive, intensely spiritual, and deeply emotional.

Lisa Marie Presley (singer) – Feb. 1, 1968
 Farrah Fawcett (actress) – Feb. 2, 1947
 James Michener (author) – Feb. 3, 1907
 Mary Leakey (scientist) – Feb. 6, 1913
 Sarah Palin (politician) – Feb. 11, 1964
 Peter Dinklage (actor) – Feb. 12, 1931
 Peter Tork (guitarist) – Feb. 13, 1942
 Hugh Downs (news anchor) – Feb. 14, 1921
 Amy Tan (author) – Feb. 19, 1952
 Julius Erving (basketball player) – Feb. 22, 1950
 Cullen Jones (swimmer) – Feb. 29, 1984

Valentine Gift Booth

13 FEB | Meadowview of Davenport | 5330 Belle Ave Davenport, IA 563-296-5020 | **10 AM TO 4 PM**

Get all of your Valentine gifts in one place! We will be selling chocolates, cupcakes, hand made cards, candy and much more! Proceeds from sales will go to the American Heart Association.

February 2024

Meadowview Monthly

Meadowview of Davenport | 5339 Belle Ave, Davenport, IA 52807 | 563-296-5020



Meet Our Team!



Becky Geiger
Executive Director



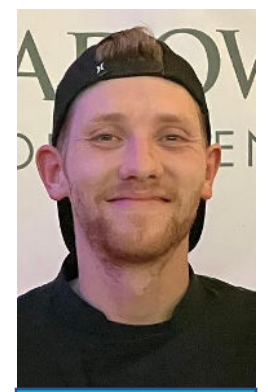
Casey Chenoweth
Marketing Director



Amie Wood
Dir. Of Nursing



Mindy Dodd
Activity Dir.



Taylor Mathes
Dining Dir.



Cheyenne Baker
Office Manager



Joe Ackerman
Maintenance Dir.

Happy Birthday!

Kaylee H. 13th

Celebrating February

Bird Feeding Month

Women Inventors Month

Engineers Week

February 18–24

Change Your Password Day

February 1

Groundhog Day

February 2

Super Bowl

February 11

Mardi Gras

February 13

Valentine's Day

February 14

Presidents' Day

February 17

Leap Day

February 29

The Magic of Mardi Gras



Mardi Gras, the vibrant and exhilarating Carnival season celebrated in various parts of the world, is a spectacle of merriment, color, and

culture. It typically involves parades, masquerade balls, and the donning of elaborate costumes, offering a unique blend of tradition and modern revelry. Each year, it is a time for people to indulge in festivities and enjoy the spirit of community. In 2024, the celebration begins on January 6. It leads up to Fat Tuesday on February 13—the culmination of the Carnival season.

In 2024, Mardi Gras promises to be an exceptional experience. While the details of the celebrations vary from place to place, grand parades with intricate floats, live music, and colorful Mardi Gras beads are common features. The heart of Mardi Gras lies in its diverse cultural influences, blending elements of French, Spanish, African, and Creole heritage, which contribute to the rich tapestry of this celebration.

A tasty aspect of Mardi Gras is the king cake, a traditional pastry with a hidden figurine or token inside that brings good luck to the person who discovers it. Vivid, intricate masks and costumes add to the visual spectacle of Mardi Gras, as participants embrace anonymity and the freedom to be anyone they choose for a day.

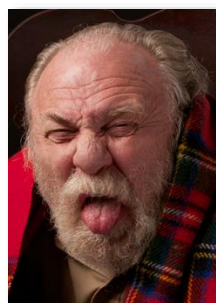
Whether you're in New Orleans, Rio de Janeiro, or any of the other cities that celebrate Mardi Gras, the joyous atmosphere and sense of unity are universal. Partygoers let loose, enjoy the parades, savor delicious cuisine, and partake in a global festival of life and culture.

But Mardi Gras is more than just a party; it's a colorful expression of tradition, diversity, and the indomitable human spirit. Mark your calendars for Mardi Gras 2024 and prepare to join the revelry!



Spreading Sunshine

Is there someone in your life who is a perpetual grouch? Are they forever grumpy? Is every day a bad day? February 16 may be your day to help them. It's Do a Grouch a Favor Day.



Hunger is a definite biological cause of grouchiness. Perhaps the best favor you can do for a grouch is bake them a treat or buy them lunch. Some people are grouchy first thing in the morning. The grouch might say they're "not a morning person," but this grouchiness may have a biological cause. Some suffer a groggy period after waking up that is called the "sleep inertia" phase. It takes from five to 30 minutes for a person to feel awake. If someone is an interminable grouch, perhaps the biggest favor you can do for them, and yourself, is leave them alone.

Pucker Up

Valentine's Day always falls on February 14, and many may be happy to see it pass. But in the south of France, people still plant kisses until the Saturday after Valentine's Day.



The residents of Roquemaure call it the Festival of the Kiss, and kiss they do. They smooch from sunup to sundown in honor of their favorite saint, Saint Valentine. Valentine became the patron saint of love when, according to legend, on February 14 around the year 270, he was caught performing illegal marriage ceremonies for Roman soldiers and was martyred by Roman emperor Claudius II Gothicus.

In 1868, the supposed remains of Saint Valentine were purchased in Rome and transferred to Roquemaure. The French village was renowned for its winemaking, but in 1868, its vines were diseased. Villagers and winemakers believed that the arrival of Saint Valentine's remains would cure their ailing vines. Miraculously, within four years, the vineyards had recovered.

And so, during the Festival of the Kiss, Roquemaure returns to the year 1868. Residents wear costumes from that era, with some even dressing up like monks, nuns, or saints. Horses and carriages clop down the streets. Storefronts boast 19th-century decorations. A market sells traditionally fashioned items. Even the street names are rewritten, bearing the names of France's most lovesick poets and artists.

Everyone drinks wine and kisses until they can't feel their lips. The local winery is named Cave Saint Valentine and produces specialty wines for the occasion. The local post office even gets in on the fun, sealing every letter with a kiss. This is why Roquemaure is known as "La Capitale des Amoureux," the Capital of Lovers.



Get Ready to LOL



February 8 is Laugh and Get Rich Day. If only it were that easy! Gelotology is the psychological study of laughter, and scientists are still trying to figure out just why we laugh. Laughter involves many

different parts of the brain as well as the coordination of many muscles. Laughing 100 times is equal to 15 minutes of exercise on a bike. It's a total body workout, with all the physical and psychological health benefits to boot. So, while laughter may not fill our bank accounts, it certainly enriches our lives.