

April: What A Month!



New York (NAPS) - If you get the urge, during April, to sing about showers, look forward to flowers, choose a mate, or go on a holiday, you will be taking part in a custom that is older than many people realize - and enjoying a month that is special in many ways.

Think a kind thought, during April, about Al Jolson: he's the singer who probably did more than any other to make the song, "April Showers," popular.

Choosing a mate? If so, you are in the company of Pocahontas and John Rolfe. They married 355 years ago on April 5, 1614.

To some, an April holiday may seem like a new idea, for 1969 is the second year on record that thousands of American hotels, motels and restaurants are offering special rates and events to persuade people to "get away from it all" more often. But the idea of a "spur of the moment" holiday in April—a special evening out, or a long weekend or two at a hotel or motel—is perhaps grounded in the stars. For centuries, according to astrologers, April has been represented by two signs: Aries, the ram, and Taurus, the bull. People born under the April signs have for centuries been recognized as energetic, impulsive, enthusiastic, positive and enterprising.

Historical achievements bear out this appraisal.

Ponce de Leon approached his fountain of youth—Florida—on April 8, 1513. Paul Revere began his ride April 18, 1775. Mutiny broke out on the Bounty April 28, 1789.

Romulus founded Rome April 21, 753 B.C. And talk about people wanting to get away from it all, it was on April 6, 1909, after 23 years of trying, that Robert E. Peary reached the North Pole!

Don't be fooled by dates, Frenchmen would urge you. The whole idea of April Fool's Day is believed to have begun in France on April 1, 1564. That was the date on which a new calendar was put to use. This so confused the people that many were called poisson d'Avril, or "April Fish"—fish being the slang word for fool or dupe in France.

And don't be fooled by "holidays" either, say those who know the ins and outs of staying at hotels and motels. Unlike the case with lengthy vacations far from home or in lands where English isn't spoken, a brief phone call is all you need to reserve a room at a nearby city or resort hotel or motel.

A spur-of-the-moment phone call even a few hours before you plan to arrive is usually sufficient. Newspaper ads often tell you the phone number and even the rates. Or you can look up this information in the industry Red Book at your hometown hotel or motel.

April this year is a month when not only people, but also the moon will be making brief get-aways. "Going out" for an evening—or at least part of one—will be that heavenly body which goes into eclipse on April 2 this year.

You can, however, fool around a little in April, with numbers, (though not on your tax form). Most people probably think that April was always the fourth month of the year, and the "30 days hath September" poem tells us that April—seemingly without exception—"hath" 30 days. Hath today, okay. But

'twas not always thus, Gus. To the ancient Romans, who called the month Aprilis, it was the second month of the year and it had only 29 days!

If you celebrate during the month of April—on a holiday or by choosing a mate—you will be in league with all kinds of other people who think that April is a time deserving special commemoration. For this is the month of National Artichoke Week, The Old Time Fiddlers' Convention, Harmony Week (to preserve Barbershop Quartets), the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, National Raisin Week, Secretaries Week—and even National Panic Week (seriously devoted to "putting humor into any situation which seems to create unnecessary panic")!

Not only the avoidance,

but also the introduction of panic has a place in April. The "Perils of Pauline," an American classic, entered on the American scene dramatically in April, 1914. And a lady who never seemed to be in peril, the self-assured Eleanor Roosevelt, delighted the nation on April 3, 1933, by announcing that from then on, she would serve beer at the White House.

Storms of applause have greeted people born in April: Leonardo da Vinci, William Shakespeare, Thomas Jefferson, J. P. Morgan, Charles Chaplin, Machiavelli, U. S. Grant, Harry Houdini, Queen Elizabeth II, and Barbra Streisand!

A storm of protest was expressed on April 28, 1902, when a New York City newspaper waged a campaign against high beef prices: 24 cents a pound for sirloin!

But storms of the more ordinary kind, in April should cause no regrets. For it isn't raining rain, you know, it's raining violets.

BUSINESS BULLETINS

NEWS AND PREVIEWS ABOUT BUSINESS

Many investors consider a generous dividend sufficient reason for buying a company's stock. Maybe so. Maybe not so.

According to a recent issue of *Investor's Reader*, a helpful magazine of interest to all investors, you shouldn't always pass over a stock because it yields a low dividend. It's a good idea to check the balance sheet in the company's annual report for the amount of earnings retained, as well as the amount paid to shareholders.

Actually, it is frequently more beneficial—to a company and its shareholders—for the company to pay little or nothing in dividends and to plow the maximum amount of earnings, back into the business. The reason is, that by retaining earnings, a company may avoid issuing new stocks or borrowing at today's high interest rates. Reinvestment of retained earnings could enable a company to grow, and hopefully, to increase profits.

Thus, investors should think twice before rejecting a stock simply because it pays a less than generous cash dividend. Look what happened to Xerox and IBM over the long run. One can get a free subscription to *Investor's Reader* by requesting it at any local Merrill Lynch office.

A little politeness goes a long way with most people and is usually repaid two-fold.

Franklin Mem. Hospital Notes

The following were patients in the hospital Thursday morning:

PATIENTS: Hubert Lee Alford, Youngsville; Raymond Rudell Alford, Zebulon; Dollie Marie Andrews, Zebulon; Rose West Aycock, Louisburg; Lillian Joyner Bailey, Franklinton; Mamie Swanson Bartholomew, Louisburg; Peggy Ann Bates, Baltimore, Md.; Lillie Harris Blackley, Franklinton; Mary Thomas Bobbitt, Henderson; Mabel Mitchell Bowden, Spring Hope; Lucy Burnette, Louisburg; Fred Dewitt Coats, Jr., Franklinton; Ruena Alston Coleman, Warrenton; Nannie Daniels Davis, Louisburg; James Gray Debnam, Franklinton; Violet Smith Dorsey, Louisburg; Merrill Eugene Fisher, Spring Hope; Lula Lambert Frazier, Wake Forest; Mattie F. Fuller, Louisburg; Milda Faulkner Garrett, Warrenton; Minnie Burrows Holden, Kittrell; Daisy Sallie Powell Horton, Louisburg; Joseph John Horton, Louisburg; Evelyn Colbert Jones, Castalia; Hazel Senter Joyner, Franklinton; Mattie Foster Lancaster, Louisburg; Terrence Lynch, Hollister; Watson Henry Massey, Zebulon; Jean Carolyn Merritt, Franklinton; Mann Mills, Louisburg; Annie Lee Hayes Nelms, Louisburg; George Allen Nelms, Castalia; John Edward Nelms, Louisburg; Joseph Adolphus Pearce, Jr., Louisburg; Lois Tucker Perry, Louisburg; Etta Privette, Louisburg; Hattie Shearin Raynor, Louisburg; William Robert Richards, Jr., Youngsville; Margaret Spivey Scott, Louisburg; Beaufort Davis Scull, Warrenton; Florence L. Stallings, Louisburg; Eudoxie Griffin Stancil, Spring Hope; Cheatham Staley Strickland, Louisburg; Clara Bell Strickland, Henderson; Hattie Bartholomew Swanson, Louisburg; Thurman Thomas, Louisburg; Julie Louise Bailey Walker, Louisburg; James Mills Wiggins, Louisburg; Arch Nicholas Wilson, Louisburg; Elizabeth Connell Wilson, Louisburg; Donnell Wortham, Louisburg; James Edward Yarborough, Louisburg; Jo Nell Horton, Louisburg; Janet Ann Boyles, Rocky Mount.

Diet Vs. Tonics

Americans spend thousands of dollars needlessly on "tonics," "supplements," vitamins or minerals in concentrated form—medications that are not needed by the average person if they follow a fairly well-balanced daily diet. It is true that some may need additional vitamins, but only if recommended by a medical

physician. For years now, there has been a concentrated effort on the part of manufacturers of various "food supplements" to undermine the public confidence in American foods. They would have you believe that our foods are "overprocessed" or are grown on "wornout soil," etc. to push their exotic products—products that are claimed necessary to fortify your daily diet, enrich your blood, steady your nerves, etc.

This is all nonsense—there is no better food supply in the world than that enjoyed by all Americans—the nutritional value of our food is unsurpassed.

Nutritional diseases that once plagued our nation are now almost unknown. Overweight has become a more common problem than underweight.

Rather than waste your dollars on supplemental vitamins, all the average American need do is buy and eat the proper foods. If milk and dairy products, vegetables and fruits, bread and cereals, meat, fowl, fish or eggs are included in the diet, all the vitamins, minerals, proteins and other nutrients that a normal, healthy individual requires will be supplied.

Perhaps you feel that you do have a nutritional problem—if this is the case take your particular medical problem to a physician—after a thorough examination he alone can best advise what you should do.

There are people out of step with the times who believe that the times are out of joint.

Louisburg Elementary School Menu

Week of April 21st - 25th

- Monday:**
Barbecue beefburger on school buns
Corn Pudding
Chilled Tomato cup
Frosted Cake Squares
½ pt. milk
- Tuesday:**
Pork Casserole
Greens
Pink Apple Sauce
Crispy Corn Bread
Cinnamon Raisin Bun
½ pt. milk
- Wednesday:**
Toasted Cheese Sandwiches
Vegetable Soup
Peach Halves
Saltines
Ginger Bread
½ pt. milk
- Thursday:**
BIRTHDAY LUNCH
Turkey Pineapple Salad on Lettuce
Green Peas
Candied Yams
Hot Rolls
Party Cake Squares
Ice Cream
½ pt. milk
- Friday:**
Toasted Bologna
Spanish Rice
Green Beans
Buttered Corn
Cherry Cobbler
French Bread
½ pt. milk

Thanks

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to my friends and neighbors during my stay in Rex Hospital and my convalescence here at home. Many thanks for the lovely flowers, gifts, cards, letters, visits, and telephone calls. Each one will always be remembered.

Frances O. Duke

Birth

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. (Sam) Wood of Route 2, Louisburg announce the birth of a son, William Howard Wood, Jr., April 15, 1969 at Rex Hospital in Raleigh. Mrs. Wood is the former Betty Spain of Henderson.

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