

April 2024

# Parkhaven Press

Parkhaven Retirement | 100 Hamilton Ct. Manhattan, MT. 59741 | 406-282-7488



## Celebrating April

### April Fool's Day

*April 1*

### Laugh at Work Week

*April 1–7*

### National Volunteer Week

*April 21–27*

### Peanut Butter and Jelly Day

*April 2*

### National Gardening Day

*April 14*

### Earth Day

*April 22*

### Talk Like Shakespeare Day

*April 23*

### International Jazz Day

*April 30*



## Tartan Tales

Scottish American Heritage Month is a time to don kilts, hum to the tunes of bagpipes, and celebrate the rich tapestry woven by Scottish immigrants in the fabric of American history. Rewind to the 17th and 18th centuries, and picture the adventurous Scots sailing across the Atlantic to the promising landscapes of Canada and the United States. They sought refuge from religious persecution, economic hardships, and land scarcity. Political unrest, coupled with the promise of religious freedom and better prospects, were incentives for many Scots to pursue a fresh start in the New World.

The spirited settlers didn't just plant their flags; they wove their culture into the fabric of their new homes. From Nova Scotia to North Carolina, they created communities that echoed the hills of Scotland. They didn't leave behind their love for haggis or the skirl of bagpipes; they infused these traditions into the heartbeat of American culture.

Fast forward to today, and you'll find echoes of Scottish influence in the very fiber of America. From the lilt of folk tunes to the thunder of athletes at Highland Games, their legacy lives on. The haunting, soulful whine of the bagpipes and the swirl of the tartans evoke a sense of kinship, reminding us of the indelible mark left by these pioneers.

Scottish American Heritage Month isn't just a nod to history; it's a celebration of resilience, tradition, and the merging of cultures. From their stories of fortitude to their rich cultural contributions, their legacy transcends time, resonating in the essence of the American spirit. This April, don your tartan, strike up the bagpipes, and celebrate the remarkable journey and enduring impact of the Scottish Americans who made this land their own. Raise a dram of whisky (or your favorite beverage) to salute the spirited Scots who helped shape America. Cheers to a heritage as rich and diverse as the Scottish landscape itself!

## Those That Matter

We are starting a new program for residents that will spotlight a specific resident that is willing to share some of their stories and life history. All information will be written by Terry Erixon. Our first participant is **Alice Miles**.

Alice's history starts in Darby, Montana which is a town that her grandfather founded. Her family consisted of 4 sisters and 2 brothers. Alice started school in Darby and finished in Missoula. When her dad fell ill, they had to leave and a group held a mission meeting in their home. With her mom seeking direction in her life, Alice was also looking for direction to have a faith-based life. Alice became a missionary at 21 years old.

Years later at a convention, Alice felt she needed to tell other people what she had found. An older gentleman from the Philippines talked with their group and asked her to go there. She travelled by boat to the Philippines and the journey took a month. When she arrived and stepped off the boat, she wondered "what have I gotten myself into?" She had to learn the language once she got to the island. Alice has been on 5 of the over 7500 islands, 3000 of which are unoccupied. It was very primitive, and the missionaries stayed with families. The husband and wife slept on the floor, the girls by the mom and boys by the dad. Alice's time on the islands spanned over 50 years.

On one occasion, Alice and her friend sat on the side of the road and sang hymns accompanied by a portable organ. A man high up on a mountain heard it and came down to see what it was. He joined in and soon became a Christian. On another occasion, a woman got so mad at her husband that she drank poison. Her husband put her into a motorcycle cart to drive her to the hospital, but he ran out of gas on the way. Somehow, he got her to the hospital, and they were able to save her life. They met two of God's servants who brought them to their church. There were no actual churches, so all meetings were held in private homes.

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## *Resident's Share And Tell*



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They had gardens they tended, but they are not like our gardens. They also got to enjoy guavas, coconuts, bananas etc. fresh from the farm. After 50 years Alice had to leave the islands because of her heart condition. She returned for a convention in 2014 and again in 2017. She still hears from her friends that she met during her time there.

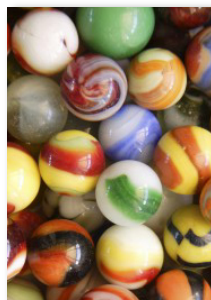
**Savoring Art**

April 13 is Slow Art Day. No, this doesn't mean you should draw pictures of turtles or molasses. It's just a day to spend some quality time with art, pondering the composition and closely contemplating the work.

For some, staring at a piece of art for 10 minutes or more may present a challenge. But Phil Terry, the founder of the slow art concept, discovered something highly rewarding when he spent hours studying two paintings in a New York City art museum one afternoon. He realized he did not have to be a professional art critic to understand and appreciate art. How does looking slowly at a piece of art heighten the experience? In the good old days, the expert craftsmanship of products was appreciated. Modern culture places an emphasis on mass production, often at the hands of unskilled craftspeople or in mechanized factories. One of the major benefits of slow art is appreciating the amazing expert craftsmanship it takes to make a work of art. Taking the time to really look at art allows us to appreciate each brushstroke, the choice of materials, and the step-by-step process of creating a work of art. With this heightened awareness of craftsmanship comes a deeper emotional connection to the artwork. Museums around the world have embraced the slow art movement, and on April 13, many will offer tours that visit only a few works of art. These tours end with lunch, where visitors can discuss what they saw and how the art affected them.

**Mobile Milestone**

On April 3, 1973, Motorola employee Martin Cooper stood on a New York City street corner and made the first cellular phone call to a colleague at Bell Labs in New Jersey. Unlike the first telegraph message ("What hath God wrought?") or the first telephone conversation ("Watson, come here. I want to see you."), Cooper's words have been forgotten. His device, however, is now everywhere, thanks to a purchase price far below the original price tag of \$3,995.

**Let the Good Times Roll**

All April long, opponents will be throwing their knuckles down. Don't worry, this isn't anything sinister. "Knuckles down" is the position you assume before shooting in a classic game of marbles. So, this April, Knuckles Down Month, you too can play for keeps.

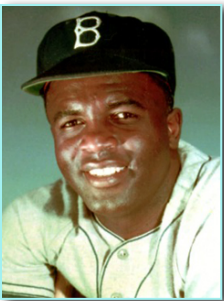
The classic game of marbles is called ringer. Two parallel lines, lag lines, are drawn 10 feet away from each other. A large 10-foot circle is drawn between the lag lines. In the middle of the circle is a cross made of 13 target marbles, or mibs. To determine who plays first, each player lags from one lag line to the other; that is, they toss their shooter marble to the opposite line. The player whose shooter lands closest to the lag line goes first.

Play starts by knuckling down along the edge of the ring and using your thumb to cast your shooter at the mibs inside. The object is to knock a mib outside the circle while keeping your shooter inside. You next knuckle down inside the ring where your shooter landed. If you fail to knock out a mib, then it is your opponent's turn. The first player to knock out a majority of marbles wins, and it's up to you to determine whether to play for fair (return all marbles to their original owners) or play for keeps (the winner keeps all the marbles).

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Postage  
Information

## Major League Debut



On April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson played his first major league baseball game with the Brooklyn Dodgers against the Boston Braves in front of a crowd of 25,000 spectators at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn. This marked the first moment that an African American athlete played a sport in any of the major leagues.

Robinson did not get a hit that day, but he was awarded the first ever Rookie of the Year title that year. In 1949, he was named the National League's Most Valuable Player. The next year, he became the Dodgers' highest paid player with a salary of \$35,000. In 1955, Robinson led the Dodgers to a World Series victory over the New York Yankees. A perennial All-Star and Hall of Famer, Robinson's number 42 was retired by all of baseball on April 15, 1997.

## April Birthdays

If you were born between April 1–19, you are Aries, the Ram. These independent adventurers like to strike out on their own and are natural leaders. Their enthusiasm and confidence give them big, outgoing personalities. Those born between April 20–30 are Bulls of Taurus. Bulls show a steady persistence in endeavors both professional and personal, and after working hard, they like to reward themselves for a job well done.

**Carl S.- 4/7**  
**Misti- 4/7**  
**Rena- 4/7**  
**Betty B.- 4/7**  
**Emily C.- 4/9**  
**Bunny- 4/14**  
**Richard C.- 4/16**