

The Views  
4925 West Ave.  
Burlington, IA 52601

Postage  
Information

# THE VIEWS NEWS

RidgeView Assisted Living and Oakview Nursing and Rehab



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

It's hard to believe that 2018 is gone and 2019 is here already! We hope that everyone had a good holiday season! We have now combined the newsletter for both RidgeView and OakView and are calling it The Views News. There will be articles from both facilities in our issues. If anyone would like to be on the mailing list for our newsletter, please contact Sarah at RidgeView at 319-752-1200. They will still be available at the desk at OakView and will still be put into tenant mailboxes at RidgeView. OakView residents, they will also still be put in with the monthly bill. Both facilities have many fun activities planned for the month of January. RidgeView will be having some new talent this month. Terry Stone will be performing the evening of January 4<sup>th</sup>. He sings and plays. Steven Parker will be back to entertain the tenants at RidgeView on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. We will also be trying out Laughter Yoga on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It should be a lot of fun! At OakView, Terry will also be here to entertain on the 4<sup>th</sup> and once a month starting the new year. The Sunshine Sisters will be there on the 29<sup>th</sup> and the Art Guild the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. Hope everyone has a wonderful and safe new year!



### Celebrating January

**Braille Literacy Month**

**Soup Month**

**Fruitcake Toss Day**

*January 3*

**Cuddle Up Day**

*January 6*

**Make Your Dream Come True Day**

*January 13*

**Popcorn Day**

*January 19*

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

*January 21*

**Australia Day**

*January 26*

**Puzzle Day**

*January 29*

### January Birthdays

In astrology, those born between January 1–19 are Capricorn's Goats. Goats are focused on lofty goals; these hardworking and determined souls will prevail with grit and resilience. Those born between January 20–31 are Water Bearers of Aquarius. Water Bearers are deep-thinking intellectuals, unafraid of exploring outlandish ideas. Their strong sense of community makes them good friends and valuable team members.

**Lorraine Peterson January 8<sup>th</sup>**

### Making Sense



In January of 1776, just months before America made its Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, American propagandist Thomas Paine published his pamphlet *Common Sense*. In *Common Sense*, Paine not only set forth a list of compelling reasons for independence but he also was able to transform the colonists' vision of themselves. Paine argued that England was not the parent country of America and that colonists were not simply aggrieved subjects. Rather, colonists had fled to America from the whole of Europe, seeking peace from violent oppression and self-realization from monstrous tyranny. Many historians believe that Paine's pamphlet was the glue that united average folk with American political leaders, turning a colonial squabble into a full-fledged war. Paine's 47-page pamphlet sold 500,000 copies, and although it was published anonymously, Paine's name would enter history books alongside heroes like Washington and Revere.

## A Birthday Mystery

Happy birthday to Sherlock Holmes, who is believed to have been born on January 6, 1854. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, never explicitly stated the date of his fictional detective's birth, so how, exactly, have we arrived at this birth date?



The January 6 date was first asserted by Christopher Morley, a literary essayist and Sherlock Holmes superfan. Morley decided on the date after noticing Holmes' penchant for quoting Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night*. He deduced that Holmes' birthday must fall on the twelfth night after Christmas, which is January 6. On that date in 1934, Morley arranged a meeting of the Baker Street Irregulars, a group of Sherlock Holmes fans and scholars who gathered together to enjoy all things Sherlockian over the course of a few days, including lectures, dinners, cocktail parties, and performances. Morley's group has included such esteemed members as Isaac Asimov, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Harry S. Truman. The original Baker Street Irregulars appeared in various Sherlock Holmes stories. They were a band of street kids who aided Holmes in gathering tidbits of information.

Sherlock Holmes scholar William S. Baring-Gould corroborates the January 6 date in a roundabout fashion. He points out that in Doyle's final Sherlock Holmes mystery, *The Valley of Fear*, Holmes awakes very cranky on January 7. Why is he cranky? He must have a hangover. Why a hangover? He was up late celebrating. What was Holmes celebrating? Baring-Gould postulates that it was his birthday. However, many attest that this is all rather shoddy detective work.

Not everyone agrees that Sherlock Holmes' birthday is January 6. Many instead celebrate Holmes' birthday on December 2, the real-life birthday of Dr. Joseph Bell, the surgeon and professor after whom Sir Arthur Conan Doyle modeled his detective. Yet all agree on the year 1854, for in a 1914 tale, Holmes was described as 60 years old. Elementary, my dear.

## Need Financial Assistance?

If you are finding that you may need financial assistance in the future, we are here to help!

Please contact us to help you with your options. At OakView call: 319-752-4100 or at RidgeView call: 319-752-1200. We will be happy to assist you with finding what options are available to you.

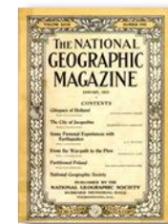


## Burst Your Bubble

We wrap up the last Monday in January with Bubble Wrap Day, a day to pop to your heart's content. Why do we get such satisfaction from popping bubble wrap? The answer may lie in the healing power of touch. Psychology professor Kathleen Dillon turned to the ancient Greeks for an answer, and she came up with a "fingering piece" or "worry stone," often a smooth stone carried in a pocket. Rubbing the stone with one's fingers brought about a soothing sense of calm. The same sense of relaxation has been attributed to Catholic rosary beads and the practice of doing needlework. Keeping our fingers busy, it seems, has an intensely calming effect. So, too, does popping bubble wrap. When we are stressed, our muscles tense. Tiny actions such as rubbing stones, tapping fingers, wiggling feet, or popping bubble wrap release nervous energy, and with each burst bubble, more

## A History of Exploration

On January 13, 1888, an elite group of 33 explorers, scientists, academics, and wealthy financiers met at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., with a common goal: "the increase and diffusion of geographical knowledge." Their organization was officially incorporated two weeks later, on January 27, as the National Geographic Society. The Society's first president, Gardiner Greene Hubbard, was not a scientist but a lawyer and philanthropist. He embodied the organization's mission to share scientific knowledge with the layperson and to open up the world to everyone.



It took nine months for National Geographic to publish its first magazine, and it was not meant for a popular audience. It was a scholarly journal filled with short, technical articles mailed to only 165 charter members. Then in 1899, Gilbert H. Grosvenor was hired as the magazine's full-time editor by Society president Alexander Graham Bell. Grosvenor changed the publication from a scholarly journal into a popular magazine full of general interest articles and full-color photography. Its images were so striking and beautiful that circulation grew from just 1,000 to over two million. Grosvenor became known as one of the "fathers" of photojournalism and one of the champions of creating a national parks system in America. Grosvenor's legacy continues today, with the magazine's worldwide circulation at 6.7 million.

The *National Geographic* magazine is certainly the Society's most important and well-known outlet for spreading knowledge, and all revenue from the magazine is used to sponsor new expeditions and research. Indeed, the National Geographic Society has aided some of the world's most fascinating explorations: Robert Peary's journey to the North Pole, Jacques Cousteau's dives to the deepest parts of the seas, Hiram Bingham's uncovering of Machu Picchu, and Jane Goodall's communes with chimpanzees. For over 130 years, it has stood by its original motto, and it continues to make important discoveries, such as an ancient megalopolis hidden in the Amazon jungle and new species of tarantula living in the Andes mountains.

## Healthy Skepticism

Once you hear that January 13 is International Skeptics Day, you might want to check the date for yourself, because some people claim that this holiday falls on October 13, while others insist that it always falls on the first Friday the 13th of the year. It turns out that a little skepticism is healthy, even when it comes to science. Skepticism, after all, urges us to corroborate what we learn by seeking supporting facts, whether in the field of science, politics, relationships, or just about anything. Too much skepticism, though, can lead to cynicism and denial, even in the face of overwhelming evidence. Similarly, a lack of skepticism can lead to naivete and being taken advantage of. When psychologists talk about healthy skepticism, they are talking about that "Goldilocks" area—not too much, not too little, but just the right amount. If this sounds plausible to you, perhaps you should consider joining the Skeptics Society, a group emphasizing critical thinking as a means to resist pseudoscience, superstition, and irrational belief. Then again, you might want to do a background check on those folks first.

## A Life in Words



Amazing. Stupendous. Astounding. Those are just a few ways to describe Thesaurus Day on January 18. This day commemorates the birth of Peter Mark Roget, who published the world's first thesaurus in 1852. Roget enjoyed making lists as a young boy but then moved on to a life of medicine and science. However, he never forgot his passion for words. In 1840, Roget retired from medicine and spent the rest of his life on his dictionary of synonyms, which he called *Roget's Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases Classified and Arranged so as to Assist in Literary Composition*. His thesaurus was originally organized not alphabetically, but by concepts like *Space*, *Matter*, *Intellect*, and *Existence*. His handy tome has never been out of print and has sold more than 40 million copies—a countless, innumerable, and multitudinous number.