



GOOD SHEPHERD VILLAGE

422 N Burnett Road • Springfield, OH 45503 • 937-322-1911

Positive Thought

"An optimist is the human personification of spring." —Susan J. Bissonette

Remember When: Silly Putty

During World War II, a rubber shortage prompted a search for a synthetic substitute. Two chemists—one at General Electric and the other with Dow Corning—combined boric acid and silicone oil. Though they were working independently, they got the same result: a bouncy, stretchy material. It wasn't a good rubber replacement, but it was entertaining to play with. A toy marketer packaged 1-ounce balls of the putty in plastic eggs and sold them for a dollar apiece, and Silly Putty became one of the most popular toys of the 20th century.

March Madness

It means office pools. Heartbreak. Buzzer beaters. Braggin' rights. "March Madness" strikes this month each year. The goal is to crown a national champion in college basketball. But did you know "March Madness" originally was coined in relation to high school hoops?

In 1939, Henry V. Porter, an administrator with the Illinois High School Association, referred to "March Madness" in an article he wrote describing the hoopla surrounding the Illinois state tournament.

When TV broadcaster Brent Musburger used the phrase "March Madness" during the 1982 NCAA tournament, it ignited an association with what has become a much-anticipated March staple.

March 2025



A Cheery Sight

Wearing a chest of bold orange feathers and chirping a cheery song, the robin is known as the herald of spring. This hardy North American bird is often a year-round resident that spends the winter roosting in trees to conserve energy. As the weather warms, robins become a more noticeable sight as they come out to search for food and begin nesting.

Famous Firsts: Academy Awards

Unlike today's spectacle, the first Academy Awards celebration in 1929 was a small affair with just 270 people. A private dinner at a Hollywood hotel honored the film industry's best in 12 categories, and the winners had been announced months earlier.

Lucky Charms

Do you have a lucky coin or a pair of socks that you believe brings you good fortune? You may be on to something. Studies show that simply believing a lucky charm works can boost a person's confidence, helping them perform a task better.



Cartoon Characters

The world of animation has brought to life a wide range of characters over the years—everything from a Jazz Age flapper and a talking bear to a crime-solving dog and a sea sponge. Take a look at these popular cartoon characters and when they made their screen debuts.

Year	Character	Debut Cartoon/Series
1928	Mickey Mouse	“Steamboat Willie”
1930	Betty Boop	“Dizzy Dishes”
1940	Bugs Bunny	“A Wild Hare”
1958	Yogi Bear	“The Huckleberry Hound Show”
1969	Scooby-Doo	“Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!”
1989	Homer Simpson	“The Simpsons”
1999	SpongeBob SquarePants	“SpongeBob SquarePants”
2000	Dora	“Dora the Explorer”
2004	Peppa	“Peppa Pig”
2012	Daniel Tiger	“Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood”

“This Month In History”

MARCH

1790: The first U.S. census is taken and records a population of 3.9 million.

1899: A German pharmaceutical company patents aspirin.

1912: Oreos, the cream-filled chocolate sandwich cookies, are introduced by the National Biscuit Company.

1923: Time magazine debuts.

1933: Frances Perkins is appointed secretary of labor, becoming the first woman to serve in the Cabinet.

1941: The National Gallery of Art opens in Washington, D.C.

1951: The comic strip “Dennis the Menace” by Hank Ketcham begins syndication in 16 newspapers.

1968: Country music singers Johnny Cash and June Carter marry.

1981: TV anchorman Walter Cronkite, often called “the most trusted man in America,” retires from the “CBS Evening News.”

1994: Hockey great Wayne Gretzky nets his 802nd NHL goal, breaking the previous record held by legend Gordie Howe.

1997: Singer, songwriter and former Beatle Paul McCartney is knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

2002: Halle Berry wins the Oscar for best actress for her role in “Monster’s Ball.” She was the first African-American to receive the award.

2006: The first tweet goes out at the launch of social media website Twitter.