



The Reserve
ON WALNUT CREEK

INDEPENDENT LIVING

MAY 2012

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of The Reserve on Walnut Creek • 2727 / 2729 82nd Place • Urbandale, Iowa

Highlights this Month...

- May 9th - Travel Lodge "Paris"
- May 11th - Coed Lunch at the Art Center
- May 23rd - Wii Jeopardy
- May 25th - Fire Department Safety Presentation

Marketing Minute

May is one of the most beautiful months of the year. The gardens begin to sprout, wild flowers are blooming and the trees and grasses have turned green. Many birds have built their nests, and even our "Mother Goose" is boosting new life.

I would like to thank all of the residents who have stopped and offered a kind word to folks as they have toured recently. It truly shows how wonderful life here at The Reserve really is! Our next open house will be on May 19th from 10am-2pm. The Reserve will be hosting the New Member Social for the Urbandale Chamber on the 24th from 4-6pm.

We continue to invite folks from our lead list to enjoy a meal with us and get acquainted with The Reserve and our wonderful residents. Newsletters are available on our website as well as email, just send an email to cindy@essexseniorliving.com and we will add you to the list. Feel free to invite your friends and family to take a peek at all the fun we have here at The Reserve!

"Creativity can solve almost any problem. The creativity act, the defeat of habit by originality, overcomes everything." ~ George Lois

Cindy

The History of May Day

The origin of the May Day as a day for celebration dates back to the days, even before the birth of Christ. And like many ancient festivals it too has a Pagan connection.

For the Druids of the British Isles, May 1 was the second most important holiday of the year. Because, it was when the festival of Beltane held. It was thought that the day divides the year into half. The other half was to be ended with the Samhain on November 1. Those days the May Day custom was the setting of new fire. It was one of those ancient New Year rites performed throughout the world. And the fire itself was thought to lend life to the burgeoning springtime sun. Cattle were driven through the fire to purify them. Men, with their sweethearts, passed through the smoke for seeing good luck.

Then the Romans came to occupy the British Isles. The beginning of May was a very popular feast time for the Romans. It was devoted primarily to the worship of Flora, the goddess of flowers. It was in her honor a five day celebration, called the Floralia, was held. The five day festival would start from April 28 and end on May 2. The Romans brought in the rituals of the Floralia festival in the British Isles. And gradually the rituals of the Floralia were added to those of the Beltane. And many of today's customs on the May Day bear a stark similarity with those combined traditions.

May day observance was discouraged during the Puritans. Though, it was relived when the Puritans lost power in England, it didn't have the same robust force. Gradually, it came to be regarded more as a day of joy and merriment for the kids, rather than a day of observing the ancient fertility rights.

Roots of May Day celebration in America:

The Puritans frowned on May Day, so the day has never been celebrated with as much enthusiasm in the United States as in Great Britain. But the tradition of celebrating May Day by dancing and singing around a maypole, tied with colorful streamers or ribbons, survived as a part of the English tradition. The kids celebrating the day by moving back and forth around the pole with the streamers, choosing a May queen, and hanging of May baskets on the doorknobs of folks -- are all the leftovers of the old European traditions.



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RESERVE Wii BOWLERS HONORED

At a special meeting of The Reserve Wii Bowlers on Tuesday April 17th, Brian Hilgenberg, owner/community relations representative of Senior Helpers (the tournament sponsors), presented each of the bowlers with a participation ribbon, and told of their best one and two game weeks. He presented Mel Pickett with a special certificate for bowling a perfect 300 game. Reserve Team #4 placed 5th in the tournament in which over 30 teams participated. All Reserve teams placed in the upper half.

“The world’s favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.” - Edwin Way Teale

Soup Labels/Box Tops Report

On April 17th I delivered 80 soup labels and 74 box tops for Education to Valerius Elementary School. The totals for September 1, 2011 through April 16th, 2012 are: 567 Soup Labels and 563 Box Tops. This contribution from The Reserve amounts to \$113.00 for Valerius to use to provide

OLD PERSON PRIDE

Submitted By: B Jones

I'm passing this on as I did not want to be the only "Old Person" receiving it. Actually, it's not a bad thing to be called, as you will see. Old People are easy to spot at sporting events; during the playing of the National Anthem. Old People remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know the words and believe in them. Old People remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, The Cold War, the Jet Age and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 plus Peacekeeping Missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Vietnam. If you bump into an Old Person on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an Old Person on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old People trust strangers and are courtly to women. Old People hold the door for the next person and always, when walking make certain the lady is on the inside for protection. Old People get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies. Old People have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren. It's the Old People who know our great country is protected, not by politicians, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country. This country needs Old People with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country and decent values. We need them now more than ever. Thank God for Old People.



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