

April 2024

THE MONTHLY GAZETTE

"Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadow of April showers."

~ Byron Caldwell Smith



Tree of the Month – Walnut

Walnut trees are part of the plant genus *Juglans*. These fast-growing trees add about 24 inches in height each year, reaching upward of 40 to 60 feet tall and developing huge trunks over eight feet thick. These incredible trees can live for 200 years. The edible seeds of the tree are called walnuts, and people have eaten them for millennia. In fact, the walnut is the oldest known tree food, dating back 10,000 years. Walnuts contain healthy fats, and eating them promotes heart and gut health. A walnut tree can produce walnuts for over 100 years. However, they are biennial



bearers, meaning they alternate big crops one year with lighter yields the next. Historically, walnuts were considered a luxurious food. They were known as "Jupiter's royal acorn" by the Romans. The black walnut tree makes prized timber due to its beautiful color, strength, and durability, and is often used for furniture and cabinets.

Special Days

April Fools' Day
April 1

Jackie Robinson Day
April 15

Tax Day (U.S.)
April 15

Passover Begins at Sundown
April 22

Earth Day
April 22

Arbor Day
April 26

Flower – Daisy



April's flower is the daisy, a favorite of gardeners everywhere. Daisies are beautiful and easy to care for, and will grow just about anywhere. Just add water and sun, and these little sunbursts add brightness to any garden. The daisy's Latin name, *Bellis perennis*, translates to "everlasting beauty." Because of their pure white color, they are a symbol of innocence and are considered the flower of children. Daisies are edible and can be used in sandwiches, soups, and salads. The leaves can be brewed to make an herbal tea.

Birthstone – Diamond



Diamonds have been valued for thousands of years, and not only for their glittery, sparkling beauty. This gemstone is also the hardest material in the world, which makes it very useful for cutting and polishing. With its incredible strength and sturdiness, the stone represents constancy and devotion and is said to bring love and harmony to those who wear it. It is fitting, then, that these brilliant gems are used in engagement and wedding rings and are the anniversary gemstone for the 10th and 60th years of marriage.

Birthday Colors

Most of us know our astrological birth sign, but do you know your “colorstrology” birthday color?

April 1–6: Yellow

You are outdoorsy and spirited. Friends know to call you when they need advice or a shoulder to cry on. You always see the good in people.

April 7–15: Navy

You have strong feelings about almost everything. People might say you are opinionated, but you have great taste. You love your life, but you can be easily distracted.

April 16–23: Silver

You are imaginative and like to try new things. You can be shy, but you like to challenge yourself. You are attracted to romantic partners who make you laugh.

April 24–30: Red

You are highly respected and most people think of you as being very unique. You like to dream big. You are always prepared and rarely surprised by what comes your way.



No Foolin’

Its exact beginnings are a mystery, but some historians link April Fools’ Day to the 16th century, when New Year’s Day moved from April 1 to January 1. Those who continued to celebrate the new year on April 1 were called fools.

April Zodiacs

Aries (The Ram)
April 1–19

Taurus (The Bull)
April 20–30

April is the fourth month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. It was originally the second month of the Roman calendar, before the addition of January and February. No one knows for sure how April got its name. Some say it comes from the Latin *aperire*, meaning “to open,” alluding to the opening of buds in springtime. Others say April was named after Aphrodite or the goddess Eostre. Whatever the case, the onset of April means that spring has arrived.

Submarine Day

Celebrate America’s maritime history with National Submarine Day on April 11. This holiday commemorates the day the United States got its first modern commissioned submarine and honors the service and sacrifice of those who have served aboard submarines. America’s current submarine fleet includes 53 fast-attack subs, 14 ballistic-missile subs, and four guided-missile subs.

What’s Lucky in April?

Lucky Color: Yellow

Lucky Animal: Goat

Lucky Letter: *H*

Lucky Day: Thursday

Lucky Plant: Tulip



April Birthdays

Edgar Wallace (novelist) – April 1, 1875

Charlemagne (emperor) – April 2, 747

Jane Goodall (primatologist) – April 3, 1934

Maya Angelou (poet) – April 4, 1928

Bette Davis (actress) – April 5, 1908

Billie Holiday (singer) – April 7, 1915

Sonje Henie (figure skater) – April 8, 1912

Dennis Quaid (actor) – April 9, 1954

Tom Clancy (author) – April 12, 1947

Frank Woolworth (businessman) – April 13, 1852

Joni Evans (publisher) – April 20, 1942

Roy Orbison (musician) – April 23, 1936

Al Pacino (actor) – April 25, 1940

Harper Lee (writer) – April 28, 1926