

## July Horoscopes and Birthdays



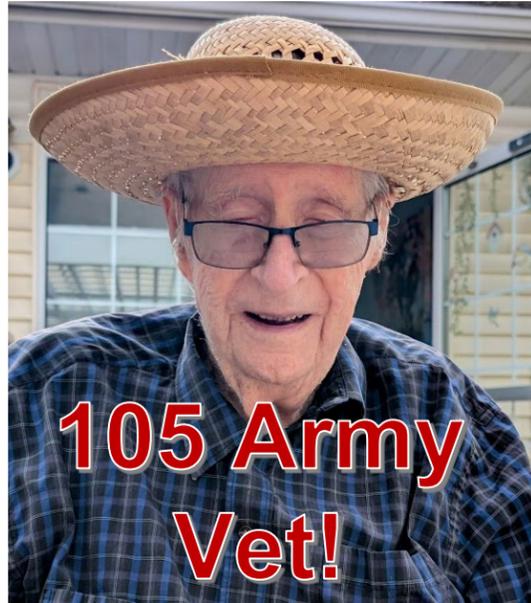
### Notable Quotable

“I am a big believer that eventually everything comes back to you. You get back what you give out.”

~ **Nancy Reagan**  
(July 6, 1921 – March 6, 2016)

In astrology, those born between July 1–22 are the Crabs of Cancer. Crabs are emotional nurturers, dedicated to their home and family. Gentle and kind, they love telling stories and upholding traditions.

Those born between July 23–31 are the Lion star sign, Leo. Leos are dignified, strong, and powerful, making good leaders and honorable friends. They are also ambitious, reaching for the stars and working hard.



Celebrities born in July include:

- P. T. Barnum – July 5, 1810
- Nancy Reagan – July 6, 1921
- Michelle Kwan – July 7, 1980
- Milton Berle – July 12, 1908
- Harrison Ford – July 13, 1942
- Phyllis Diller – July 17, 1917
- Don Knotts – July 21, 1924
- Gracie Allen – July 26, 1895

### Local Celebrities:

- Jane T - 1
- Chris H - 2
- Ann W - 2
- Barb F - 11
- Merle B - 21
- Neal W - 24
- Joyce C - 26
- Pauline N - 26
- Terry B - 28
- Jim N - 28

It just so happens that sometimes two eyes develop differently. Sometimes one eye can even have two different colors, such as a blue iris with a brown ring around the pupil, or a completely brown eye with a splash of green in the corner. This may be another way that nature makes us each a unique work of art.

### Eye-Catching Diversity



While only one out of every 100 people experience this rare genetic trait, everyone is invited to celebrate Different Colored Eyes Day on July 12.

This genetic phenomenon is most common in cats, dogs, and horses. But humans, too, can experience heterochromia, or two different colored eyes. Our eye color develops shortly after birth due to the pigment melanin. More melanin means darker eyes. Less melanin means lighter eyes.

# Oak Terrace Senior Living

July 2025

### Our Events

- 7/7 Vine Music
- 7/9 Polka Band
- 7/10 Carlson Music
- 7/15 Len Krenik Music
- 7/17 County Fair Brought Here!
- 7/21 Roam from Home to Australia!
- 7/22 Brian and Dave Music
- 7/24 Piano & Violin
- 7/29 Podiatry

### Celebrating July

Grilling Month

Family Reunion Month

Share a Sunset with Someone You Love Month

Independence Day  
July 4

Collector Car Appreciation and Cheer Up the Lonely Day  
July 11

Hammock Day  
July 22

Paperback Book Day  
July 30

## Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Oak Terrace Mankato!

East, West and Autumn Lane | 1575 Hoover Dr | 387-8358 | Activities Department



### Kiwi Christmas Magic

New Zealand’s Festival of Christmas brings a unique twist to holiday celebrations. This monthlong spectacle, aptly nicknamed the “happiest festival in New Zealand,” offers a blend of festive cheer and Kiwi ingenuity.

Although it began only five years ago as a pandemic initiative, the Festival of Christmas has quickly become a beloved tradition, drawing visitors from across the country. The event’s timing in July, which is winter in the southern hemisphere, allows New Zealanders to experience a more traditional chilly Christmas atmosphere, complete with the (unlikely) promise of snow. The festival boasts an array of activities and attractions. Visitors can marvel at light displays, participate in workshops, and celebrate the Māori New Year. The program also includes night markets, lively parties, and plenty of festive food and drinks.

One of the festival’s unique features is how it embraces a “Fire and Ice” theme, creating a captivating contrast that adds to the event’s charm.

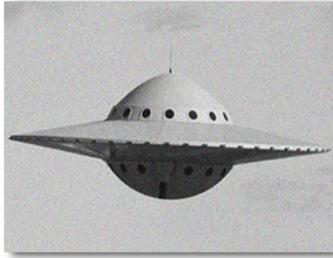
Attendees are encouraged to don Christmas sweaters and gather around braziers (portable outdoor firepits), fostering a cozy atmosphere despite the chill.

But the festival isn’t just about entertainment; it’s a community effort that brings together families, school children, and local groups. This collaborative spirit is evident in the diverse range of events, from art classes and author talks to “Books at the Bar” reading parties.

While the festival primarily takes place in Greytown, it has put the region of Wairarapa on the map as a winter destination. The event has grown to attract people from all around New Zealand, boosting local tourism and showcasing the region’s hospitality. With its unique blend of traditional Christmas elements and distinctly Kiwi touches, this midwinter celebration proves that the Christmas spirit thrives in New Zealand, summer or winter.



## FLYING SAUCER FRENZY



*Any flying object is a UFO until the point when it's identified.*

In early July 1947, something strange happened on a ranch near Roswell, New Mexico. The morning following some storms, rancher Mack Brazel rode his horse to check on the sheep. What he found has inspired curiosity, conspiracy, and hysteria ever since. Metal debris was scattered all over the ground. A shallow trench ran for hundreds of feet. When Brazel showed some of the metal to his neighbors, they offered one explanation: a UFO.

Excited citizens making UFO sightings had become a fad during early 1947. Many insist that not only did a flying saucer crash near Roswell but aliens had been recovered by the military. Conspiracy theorists contend that the military then scrambled to cover the entire incident, chalking it up as the recovery of a fallen top-secret surveillance balloon complete with life-sized test dummies.

Fifty years later, the Air Force was still trying to put rumors to rest. It released a 231-page report titled "Case Closed: The Final Report on the Roswell Crash." Each July, however, believers and skeptics alike gather in Roswell to celebrate the UFO Festival. Attendees are encouraged to parade while dressed as their favorite ET and listen to evidence presented by scientists and authors.

UFO sightings aren't limited to Roswell. Records from the Roman Republic around 200 BC describe ships descending from the sky. Japanese fishermen swore to an at-sea encounter with an alien in the year 1803. Since a worldwide phenomenon deserves a worldwide holiday, July 2 is now World UFO Day.



Huge thank you to the local Girl Scouts Troop for donating SO many flowers and planters. We loved our time together!

Cheers to National Donut Day (with BINGO!) and Black Cow Day! A.K.A. Root Beer Floats!



A few creative jelly fish showed up in Autumn Lane—they sure are fun to look at!

Griffy is our resident teddy bear—let Tom know anytime you need a Griffy snuggle!



## The Birth of a King



*This Elvis Presley publicity photo shows off one of his now-famous moves.*

On July 18, 1953, a young man named Elvis Presley walked into the Sun Records studio in Memphis, Tennessee, to make his first record. The resulting acetate disc, with just two songs—"My Happiness" and "That's When Your Heartaches Begin"—was supposed to be a gift from Elvis to his mother. Rumor has it, though, that the Presleys did not even own a record player.

Many speculate that the recording was an attempt to get the attention of Sun Records owner Sam Phillips. Apparently, Elvis made an impression, because he was invited back to the studio a year later. At first, the session was uninspiring, but then Elvis began goofing off and singing. That sound was just what Phillips was looking for, and the "King of Rock 'n' Roll" was born.

## A Day for Kings and Queens

Every year on July 20, chess enthusiasts around the world come together to celebrate International Chess Day. This special day commemorates the founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in 1924, which marked a significant milestone in the organization and standardization of chess as a competitive sport.

Chess itself has a rich history, originating in ancient India over a millennium ago. It evolved from a game called *chaturanga* and spread across the globe, influencing cultures and fostering intellectual development. Today, chess is played by millions worldwide, transcending language and cultural barriers.

International Chess Day was first celebrated in 1966, to highlight chess's role in promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

On this day, chess clubs, schools, and communities organize tournaments, workshops, and events to celebrate the game's enduring appeal.

What makes chess so special? It's not just about moving pieces on a board; it's about strategy, patience, and sportsmanship. Chess teaches valuable life skills and values, making it a beloved pastime and educational tool. Whether you're a seasoned grand master or a beginner, International Chess Day is a chance to connect with fellow chess lovers and enjoy the game's unique blend of challenge and camaraderie.



*The longest official chess game lasted 269 moves and ended in a draw.*

## Planet Over Plastic

For many, plastic bags from a convenience store are a common part of day-to-day living. But there is a movement dedicated to reducing, with the goal of altogether eliminating, the use of plastic bags.

The average plastic bag is used for only 25 minutes but takes approximately 20 years to decompose. Even then, they don't completely disappear; they just break down into microplastics. Even more shocking, every minute one million plastic bags are in use worldwide. Bags in use this minute will most likely end up in landfills, trees, the ocean, or recycled into other things like bottles, carpets, and clothes.