

July 2021

The Reminisce News

Arbor House Reminisce | 151 48th Ave SW, Norman, OK 73069 | (405) 310-2499 |



National Treasures

Since 1985, America has celebrated July as Park and Recreation Month, but America's dedication to preserving the nation's wild places goes back much further. It was in 1872 that President Teddy Roosevelt designated Yellowstone as America's first national park, and he would go on to protect over 230 million acres of land as national forests, monuments, and wildlife refuges.

As a child growing up in New York City, Roosevelt spent much of his time indoors, surrounded by concrete and steel and struggling for breath, due to debilitating asthma. It seems logical that Roosevelt would later prioritize the protection of nature. He escaped to the wilderness for fresh air and strengthened himself by trekking primeval forests and snow-covered peaks. Just as nature strengthened and inspired Roosevelt, he hoped that nature would do the same for his fellow Americans.

By every measure, Americans have fulfilled Roosevelt's dream. Each year, over 300 million people visit America's national parks. Since the creation of Yellowstone, the national park system has grown to 423 protected areas in every state, from the coast of Acadia in Maine to the redwoods of northern California, from the cliff dwellings of Colorado's Mesa Verde to the glacier-carved valleys of Alaska's Gates of the Arctic. And the park system continues to grow. At the start of the year, New River Gorge in West Virginia became America's 63rd national park. But while national parks enshrine and preserve America's rich natural legacy, Park and Recreation Month is meant to celebrate parks of all kinds.

National parks make dramatic backdrops for family vacations, but local parks are where we find daily respite and rejuvenation. They are perfect places to enjoy the shade of a tree and listen to the song of a bird. What is more, local parks provide us with opportunities to continue Roosevelt's legacy of conservation by volunteering to plant a tree or clean up a river. Roosevelt's message was not just one of enjoying nature but of protecting and nurturing it for future generations.

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Found in Translation

In July of 1798, Napoleon Bonaparte led 35,000 French soldiers into Egypt with visions of a conquest that would make him the next Alexander the Great. Napoleon's military campaign in Egypt may have ended in failure, but the French emperor had a second, nonmilitary objective. Napoleon had brought an army of scholars, scientists, and artists to Egypt to rediscover the region's great ancient culture.



When French forces took over a run-down fort near the port city of Rosetta on July 19, 1799, officer and engineer Pierre Bouchard was put in charge of its reconstruction.

While overseeing the repair of the fort's defenses, Bouchard discovered a massive basalt slab built into a wall. It was four feet long, two-and-a-half feet wide, and covered in writing. Over the centuries, much of the fort had been reconstructed with stone looted from nearby sites, and many of these stones were covered in hieroglyphics, but Bouchard immediately recognized that this particular slab was unique. He had discovered the Rosetta Stone.

The message written into the stone was less important than the fact that the message was translated into three different languages: Egyptian hieroglyphs, Egyptian demotic, and ancient Greek. Scientists immediately realized that this single slab was the key to deciphering hieroglyphics, Egypt's ancient language that had been dead for 2,000 years.

Napoleon may have suffered defeat in Egypt, but his Egyptian campaign had stirred a French fascination with Egypt. Soon, an international race was on to decipher Egyptian hieroglyphs. The British intellectual Thomas Young and the French child prodigy-turned-Egyptologist Jean-Francois Champollion would spend many years as rivals making sense of the ancient markings. In 1823, Young finally offered public congratulations to Champollion for his deciphering of hieroglyphics. At last, the language, culture, and history of ancient Egypt were open to scientists as they had never been before.







ENGAGEMENT WISH LIST

Hello family and friends

I have had several family members ask about bringing things for activities, so I decided to start a list of things we use a lot. All donations are greatly appreciated.

*Art Supplies- paint, paintbrushes, canvases, watercolor paint paper.

*Silk flowers- Seasonal

*CD's of your loved ones favorite music.

*Magazines

*White T-shirt for your loved one. We will be doing a t-shirt tie dye

I will think of different supplies I need each month and list them in the newsletter.

Thank you all so much!



ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS...

Do you like to dance (all kinds)?
Do you sing or play an instrument?
Do you have a special talent or skill?
We would love for you to share those with us.

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