

May 2023

# Arbor House Assisted Living

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## Our Staff

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## Hold Your Horses

Heritage breeds are livestock breeds that were raised in an era before the industrialization of agriculture. These are the chickens, pigs, cattle, sheep, and horses that were selected and bred to thrive on small family farms. Over centuries, these breeds have developed genetic attributes that make them special: resistance to disease and parasites, the ability to forage, longevity, and reliable reproduction. May 15–21, Heritage Breeds Week, is a time to ensure that these rare breeds survive before they are lost forever.

Just as animals in the wild are threatened by habitat loss, heritage breeds are threatened by modern agricultural practices that no longer value the genetic diversity of such animals. Many heritage breeds face extinction. And just as biodiversity in the wild ensures the health of an ecosystem, biodiversity in agriculture ensures the health of that entire industry.

Since 2017, the Endangered Equine Alliance has worked tirelessly to secure the diversity of heritage horse breeds. Sometimes the most threatened horse breeds are also the most famous. Clydesdales, the big, friendly horses best known for pulling the Budweiser wagon, number less than 5,000 worldwide. These gentle giants are beloved for their beauty and versatility; they are calm and hard-working, equally suited to ride, pull a wagon, or haul timber.

Another critically threatened breed that enjoys a degree of fame is the Banker horse, the feral breed that inhabits the Outer Banks of North Carolina. These non-native horses are valued for their unique history as descendants of Spanish horses brought to America in the 16th century. Perhaps the most endangered horse breed is the American Cream Draft horse; only 400 exist worldwide. Luckily, many of these horses are actively being saved today through conservation programs. The next time you visit a farm, you might just be visiting the home of some of the rarest heritage breeds known to agriculture.

## May Birthdays

In astrology, those born from May 1–20 are Taurus' Bulls. Bulls are reliable workers who take a slow-and-steady approach to finishing tasks. They do expect a reward for their hard work and love little indulgences. Those born from May 21–31 are the Twins of Gemini. Energetic and spontaneous, Geminis are great at connecting with others, making them ideal candidates for networking and sales.

Dwayne Johnson (actor) – May 2, 1972  
Audrey Hepburn (actress) – May 4, 1929  
George Clooney (actor) – May 6, 1961  
Don Rickles (comedian) – May 8, 1926  
Fred Astaire (dancer) – May 10, 1899  
Stevie Wonder (musician) – May 13, 1950  
Malcolm X (activist) – May 19, 1925  
Mr. T (actor) – May 21, 1952  
Patti LaBelle (singer) – May 24, 1944  
Ian Fleming (novelist) – May 28, 1908  
Brooke Shields (actress) – May 31, 1965

## Mother's Peace Day



Anna Jarvis is often credited with founding the first Mother's Day, in 1908, but it was poet and abolitionist Julia Ward Howe who made the first Mother's Day Proclamation for Peace, in 1870. Howe was already well

known for authoring "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and her fame lent greater weight to her advocacy for peace. As a nurse during the American Civil War, Howe had seen firsthand the ravages of war. When she saw the specter of war rising yet again at the onset of the Franco-Prussian War, she spoke out for an international Mother's Day where mothers from all over the world would give counsel on how to achieve peace. She wrote: "Arise, then, women of this day! Arise all women who have hearts, whether our baptism be that of water or of tears!" Indeed, Anna Jarvis' mother had worked with Julia Ward Howe, a relationship that inspired Jarvis' Mother's Day.

## You're Invited

**Mother's Day Tea May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00pm**  
**Please RSVP by Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Mother's Day Luncheon May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00pm**  
**Please RSVP by Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**limited space available**

## Outings

**Please sign up ahead of time for Residents to attend and enjoy a planned outing.**

**Out to the Lake May 19<sup>th</sup> 1:15pm**  
**Take a short ride in limo out to lake thunderbird! Enjoy the scenery.**

**Braums Trip May 25<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm**  
**Please sign up and have cash available to go enjoy an ice-cream cone.**

## Berry Pleasing



Peak season for picking strawberries is April, which makes May, -as Strawberry Month, the perfect time to enjoy these luscious, red berries. In ancient Rome, strawberries were a symbol of Venus, the goddess of love and beauty, thanks to their heart shape and red color. Strawberries are linked to the myth of the death of Adonis. He was gored to death by a boar in a hunting accident, which broke Venus' heart. As she cried, her tears mingled with Adonis' blood, and when they hit the ground, they turned into strawberries. Strawberries have long been associated with love, purity, and perfection. No wonder they are a perfect May snack!

## The Milwaukee Bridge War

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, began as three separate settlements, each named for its founder. Juneautown, east of the Milwaukee River, was settled by Solomon Juneau in 1818. West of the river was Kilbourntown, an area settled by Byron Kilbourn 16 years later in 1834. To the northwest, where the river emptied into Lake Michigan, lay Walker's Point, settled by George Walker in 1834. Each man believed his settlement to be the center of Milwaukee, and tensions between the settlements ran high until the Milwaukee Bridge War erupted on May 3, 1845.

Kilbourn made the first move, against Juneautown in 1835 when he laid out a street grid west of the river that completely ignored the existing grid in Juneautown to the east. Kilbourn's maps showed Juneautown as a blank, undeveloped space, an assertion he continued to make to the steamship captains traveling upriver to deliver vital goods to his west-side outpost. Kilbourn's ploy was clear: isolate Juneautown and make it reliant on a superior Kilbourntown.



Despite Kilbourn's efforts, Juneautown remained the most populous of the three Milwaukee settlements. Hostilities between the neighborhoods persisted even as bridges were built

over the Milwaukee River to connect the competing districts, until May 3, 1845, when a schooner rammed and partially wrecked a Kilbourn-supported bridge at Spring Street.

Kilbournians accused the Juneaus of bribing the captain. They retaliated by damaging a bridge important to Juneautown. The Kilbournians also dismantled another Juneautown bridge for spare parts to fix their own, causing that bridge to collapse. In less than a month, four of the town's five bridges were destroyed. Throughout the summer, both sides armed themselves and prepared for battle. Miraculously, tensions calmed. Three new bridges were built under armed guard, and in January of 1846, the city of Milwaukee was formed.

## May Special Activities

**May 5<sup>th</sup>**

Cinco De Mayo party  
3:00-4:00pm

**May 9<sup>th</sup>**

McFarlin Line Dance  
10:30am

**May 12<sup>th</sup>**

Mother Daughters Tea  
3:00pm

**May 13<sup>th</sup>**

Okie Cloggers  
2:00pm

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Mother's Day Luncheon  
12:00pm

**May 28<sup>th</sup>**

Visit With Veterans  
1:00pm

**May 29<sup>th</sup>**

Memorial Day  
Remembrance & Movie Day  
2:00pm

## The Battle of Puebla

After the Mexican-American War (1846–1848) and the Mexican Reform War (1858–1861), the Mexican government was almost bankrupt. In 1861, Mexican President Benito Juárez issued a two-year moratorium on payment of foreign debt. Mexico's largest creditors—Spain, England, and France—sent ships to the port of Veracruz to demand payment. Mexico negotiated with England and Spain, and their ships went home. However, French Emperor Napoleon III decided to leverage this opportunity to increase French power in the New World. Napoleon III sent a heavily armed fleet to Veracruz and forced President Juárez and his government into retreat. The French force of more than 8,000 pushed on from Veracruz toward Mexico City, with their troops more than double that of Mexico's. Napoleon expected an easy win and to easily overthrow Juárez. To his dismay, this was not the case. Even with only 4,500 troops, the Mexican army, led by Ignacio Zaragoza Seguín, was able to defeat the much bigger, better armed, and better trained French force. At Puebla, a mere 70 miles from Mexico City, the French waved the white flag. Four days later, in a frenzy of patriotism, a holiday was declared.

## Cinco de Mayo in America

But why do Americans celebrate this holiday more than Mexicans do? First, while the singular battle was indeed impressive and almost magical in the way that David defeated Goliath, the French would still take control of Mexico in 1864. But the Mexican resistance never faded, making the French rule turbulent, costing them huge amounts of money to try to keep the territory. During this time, Mexico's neighbor to the north was embroiled in the American Civil War. With France preoccupied with Mexican resistance fighters draining their coffers, the French support that the Confederacy had hoped to count on never came through, and the Union prevailed. Napoleon is said to have wanted to turn Puebla into a Confederate army base. Although the official U.S. stance during the Civil War had been to not interfere with the Mexican fight orders of isolation from United States

secretary of state and began to covertly help the Mexican resistance along the Texas-Mexico border. France eventually left the country, due to pressure from the French public and the lack of support from other European countries. Many believe that the Union would not have prevailed had France not been so occupied with trying to colonize Mexico. Pro-Union Mexican citizens living in California celebrated the Battle of Puebla, not just for Mexico's impressive victory, but also as a sign that the Union would win the Civil War. They began to celebrate the day, and soon the entire state was finding a reason to shout for joy on Cinco de Mayo. Over the years, with the migration of Mexican Americans all over the country, the holiday has become a part of the fabric of America and one more way that the U.S. celebrates the multicultural heritage that makes up the nation.

## Celebrating May

**May Day**

*May 1*

**Star Wars Day**

*May 4*

**Cinco de Mayo**

*May 5*

**Salvation Army Week**

*May 15–21*

**Mother's Day**

*May 14*

**International Museum**

**Day**

*May 18*

**Memorial Day (U.S.)**

*May 29*

# April Fun at Arbor House



# Arbor Easter Egg Hunt

