

Getting Together in February 2024 County Connection Newsletter

716 Sibley Ave, Gaylord, MN 55334

507-237-4133

Please remember to call and find out if the CC will be open during inclement weather situations. Also, please check enclosed schedule for February's activities and outings and call to sign up or sign up in person at the CC.!

Inside:

Around the CC:

Word searches:

Leap Year:

CC /CSP

February Highlights:

Feb 6 and 20: Support group with Frank

Feb 13: L.A.C. at the CC

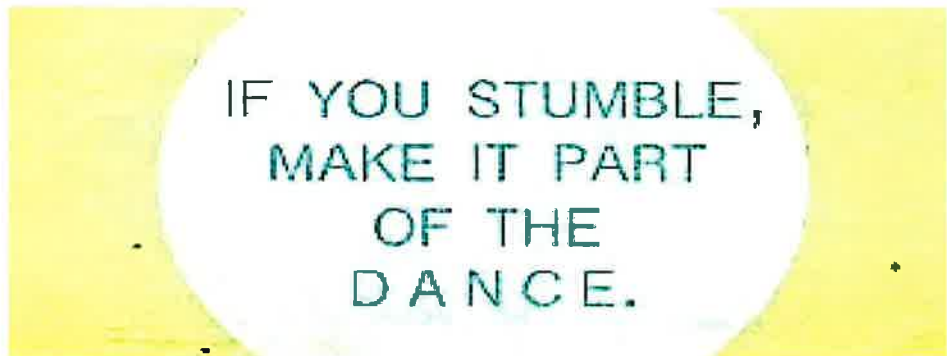
Feb 14: Lunch outing at Hahn's in Winthrop

Feb 21: Birthday and Bingo

Feb 22: Play at MSU Mankato "Clue"

Feb 27: Chili lunch at CC

IF YOU STUMBLE,
MAKE IT PART
OF THE
DANCE.





What is a leap year?

If your birthday is February 29, you can celebrate your actual birthdate only once every four years. Sound crazy? It's not—it means you were born on a leap day.

Leap days are important because they help our calendar match up with the same seasons every year. Human-made calendars generally have 365 days; the solar, or tropical, year that influences seasons is about 365.2422 days long. (A solar year is how long it takes the [Earth](#) to revolve around the [sun](#).)

Even though .2422 of a day doesn't sound like much, ignoring that fraction means eventually our seasons won't fall in the same months every year. For instance, your school year might eventually start in the spring instead of late summer. And if the calendar didn't match up with the seasons, farmers would have a more difficult time growing crops, which could affect food supplies.

That's why, in the 16th century, the Gregorian calendar—the calendar most commonly used today—started adding leap days to match the calendar with the seasons. Because four .2422 days equals about one day, February 29 is now added to most years that are divisible by four, like 2020.

Imperfect calendars

Over the centuries, many cultures have tried to make calendars, but they didn't always get them right. The Sumerians, who lived about 5,000 years ago in what is now [Iraq](#) and Kuwait, divided the year into 12 months of 30 days each—which made their 360-day year a week shorter than Earth's yearly journey around the sun. (When the Egyptians adopted this calendar, they solved the problem by adding five days of parties at the end of the year.)

Earlier Egyptians—before about 3100 B.C.—and other cultures from places like ancient [China](#) and Rome used lunar calendars. They tracked the months by how long it took for the [moon](#) to orbit Earth. But lunar months are about 29.5 days; lunar years only about 354 days. That caused an 11-day gap between the calendar and the seasons.

Today the Islamic calendar—used in countries like Saudi Arabia and Syria—still uses a lunar system—though a single leap day is sometimes added to keep the seasons the same every year.

And though modern China uses the Gregorian calendar for official purposes like the school year, the country also uses a lunar-solar calendar, which tracks *both* the moon's orbit around Earth and Earth's orbit around the sun, for more traditional customs. That's why [Chinese New Year](#) celebrations can start in late January or early February, even though the official calendar starts January 1.



What is a leap year?

"Year of Confusion"

By the third century B.C., societies started getting the hang of calendars. For instance, [Egypt](#) was observing a 365-day year that included a leap year every four years to correct the calendar.

But other calendar systems still weren't always working. To fix his culture's calendar, Roman emperor Julius Caesar created the Year of Confusion when he decided that the year 46 B.C. was going to be 445 days long instead of 365 days long. He then made a 365.25-day year—a tiny bit longer than the 365.2422 solar year—that added a leap day every fourth year.

But even this Roman system wasn't right. The small difference between 365.25 and 365.2422 made each calendar year about 11 minutes shorter than the seasonal calendar, so the calendar was an entire day short every 128 years.

By the 16th century, major dates and holidays had drifted by 10 days. In Rome, Pope Gregory XIII unveiled his own Gregorian calendar in 1582. That year, he dropped 10 days from the month of October to sync things back up. He also developed a new leap year system that used the solar year of 365.2422 days, added one leap day every four years, but dropped three leap days every 400 years to keep the calendars from drifting.

It sounds confusing, but the system has kept the calendar and the seasons in sync for more than 400 years. The Gregorian calendar isn't perfect—there's still a 30-second drift every year. But even with that, the calendar won't be off for more than a day for another 3,300 years!

And don't worry if your actual birthdate is February 29. You're still as old as you think you are—plus you have an excuse to have a *really* special birthday party every four years!

What do people do with leap year birthdays?

Those born on that day don't always get to celebrate their actual birthday — since that date occurs only every four years. Someone born on Leap Day typically celebrates birthdays on Feb. 28 or March 1. Dec 7, 2023



*February
national
days
word
search*

FEBRUARY

*Printable
from
Always
the
Holidays*

H Y Y A D P U O S E D A M E M O H N C A O R
T F A S U P E R B O W L S U N D A Y G Y E A
N O D D U E Y O S O Y N Y A D S C E A L T M
O O Y Y H S S A R C B A N A P O T D V D D A
M T A A C S A R D T H R D A D O T A M A A K
Y B D D D H A N O E A E Y E U E L T Y Y Y E
R A G T D S O L B D S D R T N E L A D A Y A
O L O R A Y N R I A A A Y R N I D I D D Y F
T L H U Y Z A O G Y N O E T Y S W R T A O R
S H D G Z A D D S A U T I S K P A K D Z S I
I A N O R A D I O R N N H R I W I P N Z T E
H N U Y Y O R A G I E D A O F D C E A I S N
K G O N E F S U R S H P O O N A E M D P R D
C O R E D W I E D E A C G N A Y K R Y A E D
A V G Z E T F A D S P U A N O A D E A C Y A
L E G O A A Y S O A T O O T I R Y A D R T Y
B R A R S I E R D A Y N K I S S D A Y P M U
D D D F U S C I E N C E D A Y I S A D R I T
A A Y A D S E N I T N E L A G K P I Y N D S
Y Y C H O C O L A T E M I N T D A Y M E A N
A N E C I T S U J L A I C O S F O Y A D R M

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| BLACK HISTORY MONTH | KISS DAY | FOOTBALL HANGOVER DAY |
| ROSA PARKS DAY | CHOCOLATE MINT DAY | PIZZA DAY |
| SUSAN B ANTHONY DAY | OPERA DAY | MAKE A FRIEND DAY |
| GROUNDHOG DAY | RARE DISEASE DAY | MAN DAY |
| VALENTINES DAY | HOMEMADE SOUP DAY | TUG OF WAR DAY |
| SAFER INTERNET DAY | SCIENCE DAY | RADIO DAY |
| ORGAN DONOR DAY | PISTACHIO DAY | GET OUT YOUR GUITAR DAY |
| DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE | TILE DAY | DRINK WINE DAY |
| SUPER BOWL SUNDAY | MISSING PERSONS DAY | SPAY DAY |
| NAACP DAY | ROSE DAY | CHERRY PIE DAY |
| GALENTINES DAY | FROZEN YOGURT DAY | LASH DAY |

Valentine's Day

WORD SEARCH

V B C L R H S W E E T S E E
T A T V I E X S T S U V S L
K C L U U A F A K F Z D K O
E K E E B R D E P O R H I V
Q L P Y N T F I B I B Y S E
W F Y M K T C P B R O O S Q
R I L V G A I E Y Q U R J V
O B Y O D O V N Q H Q A H P
M B C M W O Y H E E U T R Q
A S K Y L E S U F M E A R Y
N P K P Z H R G F L T O X K
T E T U L I P S C E A O U J
I C G C U P I D N B D M W R
C P C Q B E A M I N E T E N

HUG
LOVEBIRDS
VALENTINE
BE MINE

LOVE
SWEETS
FEBRUARY
TULIPS

CUPID
HEART
DATE
FLOWER

BOUQUET
FLAME
ROMANTIC
KISS



February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Jon 507-237-4133 (CC) Jon cell 507-479-3384 Ashley 507-327-0644 Dawn 507-327 0645				1 CC open 9—3 with St. Peter walking track at 10a.m and 1p.m. creative writing group	2 9:30 Burnsville outing Thrift store and lunch. Needs\$. Back by 3p.m.	3
4 Ashely on vacation 7th through 19th	5 Open 9—12 with Coffee at 9a.m. and IMR at 11a.m.	6 Open 9—3 with support group w Frank at 10:30am and followed by open CC	7 Open 9—3 with 9:30 coffee group and 1p.m. Music Appreciation. Bring one favorite song title to share.	8 Open 9—3 with Exercise at 10a.m. and History group at 1p.m.	9 Open 9—12 for open time	10
11	12 Open 9—3 with IMR at 11a.m and a movie at 1p.m.	13 Open 9—3 with exercise at 10a.m. and L.A.C. at 1p.m.	14 Open 9—11 with and 11a.m outing to Hahns Dining in Winthrop.	15 Open 9—3 with 10 a.m exercise and 1p.m Creative Writing group	16 Open 9—12 for open time	17
18	19 Holiday	20 Open 9—3 with Support group w Frank at 10:30a.m and 1p.m. Crochet w Susie	21 Open 9—3 with 9:30 coffee, 10:30 craft and 1pm. Birth-day/Bingo	22 Open 9a.m with 10 a.m Walking track in St. Peter. Play at MSU Mankato (Clue) at 4:45p.m. Sign up.	23 No open hours	24
25	26 Open 9—12 with Coffee group at 9:30 and IMR at 11:00a.m.	27 Open 9—3 with 10:00a.m exercise followed by a chili lunch at noon,	28 Open 9—3 with coffee 9:30a.m. and at 10:30a.m. NEW GROUP “ Around the World”	29 Open 9—3 with St. Peter walking track at 10a.m. Followed by open time.		