February Birth Flower

**Amethyst.** The February birthstone, the amethyst, is said to strengthen relationships and give its wearer courage. Amethysts are a type of quartz often found in geodes amidst cooled lava. Their purple coloring runs the gamut from reddish-purple to a bluish lilac. At one time, amethysts were only available to royalty. Ancient Greeks thought that the amethyst guarded against intoxication. In fact, amethyst comes from amethystos, a Greek word meaning “sober.”

**Primrose.** The word “primrose” comes from the Latin word, “primus.” This word means “first,” which makes sense if you consider that the primrose flower typically is the first flower to bloom in the early spring. Because of this etymology, primrose flowers are often seen as representations of youth and everlasting existence. In addition to the connection of this flower to youth and longevity, it has many other meanings, too. Usually, primrose flowers are seen as representations of young love and of feeling as though you can’t live without your lover.

“The only thing we should scream into the world is love.”

— Jill Telford

celebrating BLACK HISTORY MONTH today and everyday
BLACK HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY
Meet Marie Van Brittan Brown. Although she was a full-time nurse, she recognized the security threats to her home and devised a system that would alert her of strangers at her door and contact relevant authorities as quickly as possible.

Her original invention consisted of peepholes, a camera, monitors, and a two-way microphone. The finishing touch was an alarm button that, when pressed, would immediately contact the police. Her patent laid the groundwork for the modern closed-circuit television system that is widely used for surveillance, home security systems, push-button alarm triggers, crime prevention, and traffic monitoring.

Mary Kenner is an inventor of numerous products we use today and has the most patents of any African American woman.

Kenner’s first patent was in 1957 for the sanitary belt. While she originally invented the sanitary belt in the 1920s, she couldn’t afford a patent. Over time she improved her earlier version and other versions that were patented before hers.

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HISTORY CORNER: AFRICAN AMERICAN INVENTORS

Contributed by Amanda Gustafson, Minneapolis Central Library

Recognizing the contributions of African American Inventors.

LEWIS LATIMER (1848-1928) CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS

Inventor and engineer Lewis Latimer made the lightbulb more practical and contributed to the first telephone invention.

Latimer worked with the famous inventor Hiram Maxim at the U.S. Electric Lighting Company. While working there in 1881, Latimer patented a carbon filament for the incandescent lightbulb. The invention helped make electric lighting practical and affordable for the average household.

His inventions didn’t stop there; working with Alexander Graham Bell, Latimer helped draft the patent for Bell’s telephone design. Latimer also designed an improved railroad car bathroom and an early air conditioning unit.

DR. CHARLES R DREW (1904-1950) WASHINGTON, DC

“Father of the Blood Bank”

Major scientific achievements:
- Discovered method for long-term storage of blood plasma
- Organized America’s first large-scale blood bank

Charles Richard Drew was an American surgeon and medical researcher. He researched in the field of blood transfusions, developing improved techniques for blood storage, and applied his expert knowledge to developing large-scale blood banks early in World War II.

GARRETT MORGAN (1877-1963) CLAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

Nickname: "Big Chief Mason"

Many of the world’s most famous inventors only produced one major invention that garnered recognition and cemented their prominent status. But Garrett Augustus Morgan, one of the country’s most successful African-American inventors, created two – the gas mask and the three-position traffic signal.

Born in the last quarter of the nineteenth century to former slaves, Garrett A. Morgan was only formally educated to a sixth-grade level. Fortunately, like many great inventors, Morgan had an innate mechanical mind that enabled him to solve problems. And, unlike most other inventors, he also was a skilled entrepreneur.

Morgan invented and patented the first chemical hair straightener, started his own sewing equipment repair business, and even established the Cleveland Call newspaper.
Hello Magnet Film Club!

I hope you all have had an enjoyable start to the new year. I am excited about all the new movies that are streaming out there. If you are not able to stream any new movies right away, please remember to check out the library’s selection. Also don’t forget to checkout February’s display featuring movies about friendships in film.

HULU: Nomadland “After losing everything in the Great Recession, a woman embarks on a journey through the American West, living as a van-dwelling modern-day nomad.” rated R (Release date 2/19)

NETFLIX: News of the World “A Civil War veteran agrees to deliver a girl, taken by the Kiowa people years ago, to her aunt and uncle, against her will. They travel hundreds of miles and face grave dangers as they search for a place that either can call home.” 2020, rated PG-13

AMAZON PRIME: One Night in Miami “A fictional account of one incredible night where icons Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, Sam Cooke, and Jim Brown gathered discussing their roles in the Civil Rights Movement and cultural upheaval of the 60s.” 2020, rated R

PLUTON FREE: Arrival “A linguist works with the military to communicate with alien lifeforms after twelve mysterious spacecraft appear around the world.” 2016, PG-13

YOUTUBE: "The Take" is for movie and tv fans that explore common tropes, the in-depth movie ending explanations, and more.

Hulu: THE UNITED STATES VS. BILLIE HOLIDAY rated R (Release date 2/26)

"The legendary Billie Holiday, one of the greatest jazz musicians of all time, spent much of her career being adored by fans across the globe, all while the Federal Department of Narcotics targeted her with an undercover sting operation led by black Federal Agent Jimmy Fletcher, with whom she had a tumultuous affair. Inspired by her life story, THE UNITED STATES VS. BILLIE HOLIDAY intimately examines her struggles with addiction, fame and heartbreaking love." Rated R

Click HERE to view trailer.

Dial-a-Story for Adults

Call 612-543-8851 and listen to a recording of staff reading a short story on-demand. The story will change weekly.

ANGELIQUE’S BLACK HISTORY MONTH FILM PICK:
We are saddened to announce the passing of Mable Gullickson, a friend of The Magnet and the Downtown Minneapolis community. A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered.

Mable Orr Gullickson, 98, passed away Monday, January 11th, 2021, in Shorewood, MN. In Langford, SD, she was born on December 8th, 1922, and graduated from Langford High School in 1940.

Mable went on to work for the federal government in Washington DC, Miami, Chicago, and finally Aberdeen. She then relocated to Minneapolis, where she worked for Piper Jaffrey.

Ultimately, Mable wanted to teach, and so later in life, she graduated with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Minnesota. She spent the next 25 years as a highly sought-after substitute teacher in Minneapolis and the surrounding suburbs until retiring at age 80.

Mable kept a positive outlook on life and a kind word for whom all she encountered. She enjoyed chair yoga, walks in the park, and was a life-long learner. We will miss Mable and her gentle wit.

Happy Valentines Day from The Magnet

Wishing you all of the love and care your heart can handle.

By the way, February is American Heart Month, a time when all people are called to focus on their cardiovascular health; please take good care of yours.
ONLINE HAPPENINGS
Classes, Events, and Conversations Happening Online

WEEKLY MAGNET GATHERING: EVERY WEDNESDAY (10 AM - 12 PM)
Pop in for a quick visit, or feel free to stay the whole time! Staff and friends of The Magnet will greet you. We hope to bring back some staples of The Magnet program such as 'Show & Tell,' 'History Discussion Club,' guest presenters, and more!

Enter the ZOOM room at: http://bit.ly/magnet21

DIAL-IN TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION! We now have an 888-Number available, making it FREE to call from your cell phone and landline.

If you are joining us by phone, call 888 788 0099 US Toll-free.
Enter the Meeting ID when prompted: 957 3226 6101. Passcode: 555388
You will then be asked to press the pound button ( # ) to join.

HISTORY DISCUSSION CLUB IS BACK!
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH (10:30 AM - 12 PM)
Our last pre-Covid-19 History Discussion Club at The Magnet was about Women’s History and we are doing it again. Due to the virtual nature of our meetings, things will need to be different. We will be listening to short recordings about different topics in Women's History, followed by discussion.

Enter the ZOOM room at http://bit.ly/magnet21

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TESTIFY: THE PAST IS PRESENT
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 2021
(7:00 PM – 8:00 PM)
Join us as we welcome former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page for a dialogue about items from the TESTIFY Exhibit, which debuted at Minneapolis Central Library's Cargill Gallery in 2018.
The program will revisit items from American history curated by the Diane and Alan Page Collection, helping to ground and provide a context for current events.
The online discussion link will be emailed to registrants in advance (within 48 hours of the event).

CITY OF MPLS COMMUNITY SAFETY PILOT PROGRAMS

In response to the issue of public safety, the City of Minneapolis has two new pilot programs.

Mental health crisis response pilot
If you have a mental health crisis in Minneapolis, you can still call 911 or the COPE Mobile Crisis Team in Hennepin County: 612-596-1223 (for adults in Hennepin County) and 612-348-2233 (for children 17 and under). In 2021, two mental health teams will be available 24/7 for crisis calls. This means police may not provide the primary response for mental health crisis calls, but police may still respond if both mental health teams are unavailable.

Report-taking pilot program
To report theft or property damage, you can call 311, 911, or submit an online report. As part of a pilot this year, City employees (non-sworn officers) will take theft and property damage reports from residents.

City’s community safety webpage:

Office of Violence Prevention Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/MinneapolisOVP/
To Your Health: COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Safety
from Michelle Lavelle-Henry, RN-C, CNP, APRN
Health Liaison, Magnet Senior Program

COVID-19 is still on everyone’s mind. The availability of a vaccine brings hope to an end of the pandemic. We have all been doing our part in reducing the spread of this virus. The next step is to get the vaccine as it becomes available to you. The more people that get vaccinated against COVID-19 is better for everyone.

Vaccine safety and effectiveness, side effects, and cost of the vaccine have prevented some from getting the vaccine.

Safety and effectiveness: Safety is a top priority. Manufacturers that do vaccine development must present safety data to prove it is safe and effective before it becomes approved. This data is closely reviewed by a community of scientific groups that make informed decisions about the risk and benefits of using it. The CDC has developed a new tool, V-Safe. It helps you track and report any side effects you might have and reminders when to get your second dose.

Common side effects: Some common side effects to expect are a sore arm, muscle aches, tiredness, headache, and maybe a fever. These side effects may stop you from doing your normal activities for only a few days.

Cost: The COVID-19 vaccine will be provided at no cost. Health care providers will be able to charge an administrative fee for giving the vaccine. This means you might be asked to provide your insurance information when you are vaccinated. You can still get the COVID-19 vaccine if you do not have insurance and or can not pay for the administrative fee.

Reducing the spread of COVID-19 after Vaccination: Once you receive the COVID-19 vaccine (2 doses of the current vaccine), you still must continue with social distancing and wearing a mask. The COVID-19 vaccine is good at preventing people from getting sick, but it is unknown if someone vaccinated might spread the disease to others if they get COVID-19. It is important to follow all public health guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. These include hand washing, getting a COVID-19 test, and quarantine if indicated.

Help spread the word by downloading the key messaging flyer and encouraging others to get vaccinated:
https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine/vaxkeymessages.pdf

To learn more about V-Safe go to:
To Your Health: Minneapolis Vaccine Clinics

The State of Minnesota has ramped up its COVID-19 vaccination efforts and is now administering two times the number of shots given per day on average compared to the previous week. The increase in vaccination rate follows Gov. Tim Walz’s directives to accelerate the vaccine’s availability across the state. Walz set a goal for all providers to get 90% of the vaccine received administered within 72 hours and the remainder within one week.

Please contact providers to confirm vaccination location and hours, that they have the vaccine doses and appointments available, and that you are eligible for vaccination at that site.

Hennepin Healthcare Clinic and Specialty Center
715 S 8th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 873-2922

Vault Health - Minneapolis Convention Center
1301 2nd Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55403
(800) 800-5698

Hennepin Healthcare Whittier Clinic
2810 Nicollet Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 873-2922

Northpoint Health & Wellness Clinic
1313 Penn Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
612-348-9000

View The State of Minnesota’s Vaccine Location Finder HERE:
https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/find-vaccine/locations/
Several Chihuly glass sculptures can be seen walking through the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. In this time of COVID-19, reminding viewers of the similarities to images of the virus.

( Photo Credit: Barbara La Valleur)

**MAGNET MOMENTS**

Celebrating Black History Month with bites of Ms. Freddie’s Sweet Potato Pie and Vintage Valentine’s at The Magnet’s Minneapolis Central Library location (2020)

We miss it all!
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

By Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.
My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.
The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.
WHAT'S THE WORD?

RIDDLE 1# What starts with a P, ends with an E, and has thousands of letters?

RIDDLE 2# Mary’s father has five daughters – Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the fifth daughter’s name?

RIDDLE 3# What belongs to you, but everyone else uses it.

See last page of newsletter for answer key.
INFORMATION & RESOURCES

THE MAGNET MESSAGE LINE

Our Westminster Presbyterian Church and Minneapolis Central Library locations are closed until further notice, but you can still leave a message for us by phone! We check messages daily. Dial 612-540-2928 or email Angelique Kingsbury at akingsbury@wpcmpls.org

ABOUT THE MAGNET

The Magnet: Activities & Conversation for Older Adults is a joint partnership of Minneapolis Central Library and Westminster Presbyterian Church. Offering older adults a place to gather for coffee, conversation, cultural and educational events. Drop-in. No reservations are required. Ages 50+ All are welcome!

We meet Monday through Thursday 9 AM - 12 PM

Westminster Presbyterian Church (Mondays & Wednesdays)
1200 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Minneapolis Central Library (Tuesdays & Thursdays)
300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

GIVE HELP. GET HELP.

Across the country, people are informally organizing new online mutual aid groups to stay connected, share ideas, and help those most affected by the Coronavirus. Whether you want to start a group, find a group, or get assistance yourself, this directory can help you connect with people in your community.

VISIT: https://aarpcommunityconnections.org/

Ask Us!

Good news! Hennepin County Library’s Ask Us phone service is back up and running as of Monday, April 6th. Please call for information, referral to resources, help with e-books, and more!

AskUs: 612-543-KNOW (5669)

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 9 PM. Friday and Saturday 9 AM - 5 PM Sunday 12 PM - 5 PM
BRAIN TEASER ANSWERS

WHAT'S THE WORD?

![Crossword Puzzle]

RIDDLES

Riddle #1  The Post Office
Riddle #2  Mary
Riddle #3  Your name