Monday is National Watermelon Day!

AUGUST 03RD 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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National Watermelon Day is observed annually on August 3rd. Watermelon is a fruit enjoyed by many and is a favorite of summertime events such as picnics and fairs. Watermelon is 92% water, which is why it is so refreshing.

Watermelon is a vine-like flowering plant originally from southern Africa. Its fruit, which is also called watermelon, is a special kind referred to by botanists as a pepo, a berry which has a thick rind (exocarp) and fleshy center (mesocarp and endocarp). Pepos are derived from an inferior ovary, and are characteristic of the Cucurbitaceae. The watermelon fruit, loosely considered a type of melon – although not in the genus Cucumis – has a smooth exterior rind (usually green with dark green stripes or yellow spots) and a juicy, sweet interior flesh (usually deep red to pink, but sometimes orange, yellow, or white).

Watermelons can grow very large and you will find competitions across the country which award prizes each year for the largest one. The Guinness Book of World Records states that the heaviest watermelon weighed 262 pounds. To learn more interesting watermelon facts, check out www.watermelon.org.

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Friday's Full Moon Occurs Once Every Three Years!

JULY 31ST 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Friday's Full Moon Occurs Once Every Three Years!

This Friday much of the world will have the opportunity to view a "blue moon." Despite its name, the moon itself will not be blue.
A blue moon occurs every three years when we experience two full moons in a single month.

Full moons typically occur every 29 days, according NASA's National Space Science Data Center, but since most months are 30 to 31 days long, it is possible to have two full moons in a month every 2 1/2 to three years.

There was a full moon on July 2 and July 31 will see the second - two very average-colored full moons.

Blue-colored moons do exist, but they only occur "once in a blue moon."

For a moon to take on a blueish hue, it is typically due to smoke or dust particles in the atmosphere such as during a volcanic eruption or forest fire, according to NASA Science.

In 1883, an Indonesian volcano named Krakatoa exploded and scientists likened the blast to a 100-megaton nuclear bomb. Plumes of smoke rose to the top of the Earth's atmosphere and the moon turned blue.

Basically, if either a fire or an eruption produces ash or oily smoke containing a significant amount of 1-micron particles, the moon appears blue.

The most recent blue-hued moon was seen in Edinburgh, Scotland in September 1950, caused by ash from forest fires burning in Alberta, Canada.

The modern phrase associated with two full moons in a single month is attributed to a 1946 *Sky & Telescope* article entitled *Once in a Blue Moon* by James Hugh Pruett.

Before Pruett wrote his article, a "blue moon" referred to the third blue moon in a season, however, Pruett misinterpreted the information, according to *Sky & Telescope*, and the 1946 version of the magazine adopted his more modern definition.

A popular radio program, called *StarDate*, referenced the two full moons in a month definition on Jan. 31, 1980, and it experienced widespread adoption.

So, yes, the lunar experience on Friday is based on a misinterpretation of the original definition of a "blue moon," neither of which have anything to do with the moon's color.

Regardless, it's a good excuse to get outside and view a somewhat-rare occurrence.

The last time we saw two full moons in month was in 2012 and we will not see the event again until 2018.

Moon photo by local photographer Jimmy Sisk of Charleston, MO.

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More from ShowMe Times:

National Mutt Day - Share Your Photo of Your Favorite Mutt

JULY 31ST 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

National Mutt Day - Share Your Photo of Your Favorite Mutt

United States - Each year on July 31st and December 2nd, National Mutt Day is celebrated across the United States. This day was created as a day to embrace, save and celebrate mixed breed dogs.

Desperately longing for a new home, there are millions of loving and healthy mixed breed dogs, in shelters across the United States, awaiting for someone to come and adopt them.

For more information regarding National Mutt Day, see:
http://www.nationalmuttday.com/

CELEBRATE

Visit a dog shelter. If you are unable to adopt a dog, you can always volunteer. Post on social media using #NationalMuttDay and encourage others to join in.

HISTORY

National Mutt Day, an "unofficial" national holiday was created in 2005 by Celebrity Pet Expert and Animal Welfare Advocate, Colleen Paige.

This day is celebrated on both December 2 and July 31 of each year.

Shown in the photo is 11 year-old Grace who lives with Jessica Loflin in Dexter, Missouri. She is half Dachshund and half Beagle, so she is a Deagle! Jessica is the daughter of Dee Loflin.

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Lea Jenkins Joins Southern Bank

Lea Jenkins Joins Southern Bank

Dexter, Missouri - Lea Jenkins has joined Southern Bank in Dexter as a lender.

Lea graduated from Richland High School. She attained an AA in General Education from Three Rivers College and is a graduate of the Barrett School of Banking in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mrs. Jenkins already has six years of general banking experience with the last three years

concentrating on Residential Mortgage Lending.

Please stop in and visit with her at 713 W. Business 60 in Dexter or give her a call at (573) 624-5525.

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National Parents Day

National Parents Day

National Parents Day is annually celebrated, in the United States, on the fourth Sunday in July. Similar to a combination of Father's Day and Mother's Day, National Parents Day is a day to honor your parents. show appreciation to them and to celebrate family.

To all parents out there……………… *Happy Parents Day !*

CELEBRATE

Call up your parents, or reminisce about the good time with them. Post on social media using #NationalParentsDay and encourage others to join in.
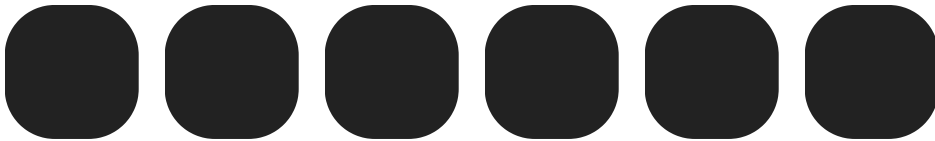
HISTORY

This holiday was established in 1994 when President Bill Clinton signed a Congressional Resolution into Law for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children."

The bill was introduced by Republican Senator Trent Lott.

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