

Richards Reader

April 2016



Celebrating April

Lawn and Garden Month
National Pecan Month
Stress Awareness Month

April Fool's Day

April 1

National Walk to Work Day

April 4

No Housework Day

April 7

National Siblings Day

April 10

Eight Track Tape Day

April 11

National Pecan Day

April 14

Patriot's Day

April 18

National Zucchini Bread Day

April 23

National Pretzel Day

April 26

National Prime Rib Day

April 27

Take Your Daughter to Work

April 28

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF OUR
RICHARDS RESTAURANTS CUSTOMERS
AND TEAM MEMBERS

Sign up for our birthday club at
www.richardsrestaurants.com

Rhubarb

Rhubarb has been around for about 4,000 years, but only as a food for the last few hundred. The English first saw rhubarb's food potential, and rhubarb pie is to England what apple pie is to America. Unlike apples, however, rhubarb was left behind by food fashion. But it's making a comeback. In England, rhubarb is enjoying a major revival as celebrity chefs tout it as a super-food — high in nutrition and low in calories. Rhubarb is low in the dreaded carbohydrate, high in vitamin C, fiber and potassium. It is said to speed up metabolism and aid weight loss. This is not the first time in history rhubarb has been seen as a miracle plant. Native to Northern Asia, rhubarb was used for centuries for medicinal purposes: as a gentle purgative, to reduce fevers and to alleviate the plague.

Rhubarb wasn't really known in the United States before the early 1800s, but caught on quickly. Because of its use in pies and jams, rhubarb is thought of as a fruit.

Botanically, however, it is a vegetable.

Rhubarb pie is our featured dessert this month. Each pie is made at our bakery using freshly made pie dough, IQF rhubarb, and other hand mixed ingredients. Grandma Gladys perfected our recipe and we continue to follow it each week as we make this uniquely flavorful sweet and slightly sour fruit pie. Each restaurant bakes their fruit pie every day, brushing the pastry top with water and sprinkling a touch of sugar on top to give a nicely browned crust when removed from the oven.

Rhubarb pie is available the entire month of April for just \$1.99 per slice or \$8.49 for a whole pie.



April Showers Bring May Flowers

Once April 1st comes around, it's time to take out of storage those rain boots, umbrellas, and ponchos. The age-old saying "April Showers Bring May Flowers" still holds true today. It can be traced back to the mid 1500s, when a gentleman by the name of Thomas Tusser compiled a collection of writings he called A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry. In the April Husbandry section he wrote:

Sweet April showers
Do spring May flowers

As you can see, the rhyme was originally a short poem. There is meaning behind the words, as well. "April showers bring May flowers" is a reminder that even the most unpleasant of things, in this case the heavy rains of April, can bring about very enjoyable things indeed – in this case, an abundance of flowers in May. "April showers bring May flowers" is a lesson in patience, and one that remains valid to this day.

Arbor Day

Arbor Day is a holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees. Despite (or rather, because of) a naturally treeless prairie landscape, Nebraska is the birthplace of Arbor Day. The holiday began with journalist Julius Sterling Morton, who moved from Detroit to Nebraska in 1854. At the time, the wide open spaces of the west weren't working out so well for pioneers — the shadeless prairie was hot in the summer, with few windbreaks to keep tilled soil from blowing right into Kansas. The solution?
Plant a tree.

Morton rose to become the state secretary, and helped establish the first Arbor Day on April 10, 1872. More than 1 million trees were planted across the state that day.

Arbor Day became a national sensation in 1907, when President Theodore Roosevelt issued a proclamation to school children about forestry and the importance of trees.

Employee Milestones

Without dedicated team members, Richards would not have been in business for over thirty years. So hats off to the following employees who have shown dedication and hard work in providing to our customers on a daily basis.

Decatur:

Greg Jones 6 years
Melissa Horn 5 years

Washington Center Road:

Raymond Marty 18 years
Erazmo Ramirez 9 years

Columbia City:

Debra Price 17 years
Dawn Stultz 5 years

Portland:

Judy Sanders 25 years
Robert Steinke 12 years

Marion:

Charles Cox 6 years

Kendalville:

Lori Polly 28 years

New Haven:

Sang Yop Brandt 40 years

Warsaw:

Raquel Martinez 11 years

Corporate:

Susan Myers 31 years

Commissary:

Diane Winteregg 6 years

Full Meal Deal

Two grilled pieces of split
smoked sausage served with
mashed potatoes or french
fries and today's vegetable.

No Substitutions

\$4.99

