

The Barry Bulletin

Connecting you to English language, culture and Washington D.C. events

March 17th is St. Patrick's Day

This holiday started in Ireland, but everyone celebrates this holiday! Wear green, and enjoy some beer!

April Fool's Day is April 1st

This day is for practical jokes. People may try to fool you with misinformation, or situations. They will say "April Fool's!" to reveal that the situation is a joke, not real, but meant to tease you. If you decide to play a joke, make sure it is in good humor.

In and around D.C.:

<https://washington.org/spring>

<https://washington.org/visit-dc/free-things-to-do-spring-in-dc>



Cherry Blossoms Bloom in D.C.

April 2 - April 5, 2021

Here is the link to the official Cherry Blossom Festival website:

<https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/>



Check out the tab "Bloom Watch" for up to date predictions of when the blooms will be at the most beautiful. Enjoy!



Some important Spring dates:

April 14th - Daylight savings
"Spring forward" turn clocks
forward one hour

May 4th- Easter Sunday.
Christians celebrate this holiday.

April 15th- US income tax is due

May 5th - "Cinco de Mayo"
Mexican independence day.
Enjoy some Mexican food and
drink!

May 9th - Mother's Day

May 31st - Memorial Day - The
official start of summer! It's a
holiday meant to remember
veterans who have died. Since it
always falls on a Monday, people
try to have a holiday weekend. It
is famous for terrible traffic
because people are eager to go
to the beach for the three day
weekend! You may be invited to a
barbecue! Depending on covid,
the pool will be opening this
weekend too.

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Saint Patrick's Day is
celebrated by all Americans.
This holiday has Irish
origins, but it has been
adopted here too.

Watch these videos:



**Green is the color of Ireland! Wear
some green on March 17th. People
celebrate with drinking beer and eating
corned beef and cabbage. Try a
Guinness beer (stout) which is a heavy
black drink popular in Ireland. Other**

things you might see are Leprechauns who are magical fairies. They hide big pots of gold at the base of rainbows! You will also see shamrocks, similar to clover, which is a symbol of good luck.

Easter-



Although Easter is a religious holiday, like Christmas, it has become commercialized. Children wait for the Easter Bunny to bring Easter eggs (hard boiled and colored eggs) and candy treats. Often, children will search for hidden eggs outside as a fun game. You will see chocolate bunnies, chocolate eggs wrapped in foil, and marshmallow “Peeps”. Adults also enjoy these treats, and perhaps a delicious meal of roast spring lamb. Images of baby chicks are also popular. You will see spring bulbs also blooming. Lillys are seasonal and a flower associated with Easter.

<https://www.peepsbrand.com>

<https://www.paaseastereggs.com/>

English idioms you may hear....

1. Spring Fever- The feeling that it is hard to keep working because the weather is warming and you want to enjoy an outdoor activity.
2. To spring for.. something - This means you pay for something expensive for yourself or as a treat for someone else.
3. To have a spring in your step - This describes the extra energy or enthusiasm you have in moving around when you are in a good mood. It can be a result of the nicer weather.
4. Not a spring chicken - This means someone is no longer young!
5. To spring a leak - The action of a leak starting so a liquid escapes from its container.
6. Like watching grass grow - a very boring activity
7. Fresh as a daisy - feeling clean and well rested
8. Bright eyed and bushy tailed - feeling awake, alert like a squirrel or bunny
9. Your head is in the clouds - you are spending too much time dreaming instead of acting
10. To take a rain-check - Means to delay an arrangement or meeting. It is a promise to repeat a plan at a more convenient time.
11. April showers bring May flowers - a phrase meant to remind us that rain is necessary in the spring, so that we can enjoy the flowers of spring too
12. It's raining cats and dogs - It is raining very hard
13. Come rain or shine (or just "rain or shine") - an event will take place even if the weather is bad/ raining. It also means something will happen no matter what we try to do to prevent it from happening.
14. To have a green thumb - to be great at gardening

