

Humans Smart, Phones Smarter



On June 29, 2007, the very first iPhone was released to the world, a debut that changed both the Apple corporation and the world. For the first time, humans held a smartphone in their hands, a device that did not just make phone calls, but browsed the Internet, sent and received email, played music, movies, and games, took pictures, had a GPS... all in a little pocket-sized box with a really cool touchscreen. It was like holding the future in the palm of your hands.

About a year after the iPhone's debut came another important innovation that made the smartphone even smarter: the so-called App Store. Applications, or apps, now allowed smartphones to become anything and everything users wanted them to be. These apps are mini-programs. Some apps are as simple as games. Others created an entirely new economy: cars can be summoned with Uber and Lyft, money transferred with Zelle, and pictures shared with Snapchat and Instagram.

Nowadays the iPhone isn't the only smartphone on the block. Following Apple's success, plenty of other tech companies quickly built their own smartphones. It seems that every man, woman, and child carries one, and in this manner smartphones have revolutionized society itself. We have access to more information now than we have had in the entirety of human history, and we can share this information in the blink of an eye. We no longer just share photos of our family vacations but of political coups and social injustice. But current research also tells a story of smartphone addiction. We have become so attached to our smartphones that we can't bear to live without them. People are sleeping with their phones within reach, checking their screens at all hours. Without downtime away from our phones, our nervous systems are in states of overload, making us both wired and tired all the time. No wonder young people today suffer anxiety when they are apart from their phones. So, have smartphones outsmarted us? Only time will tell.

June Birthdays Residents

Elizabeth Graham 6/02
Berta Brown 6/08
Xiomara Banks 6/08
Elissa Knowles 6/10
Thomas Frato 6/10
Sandra Neal 6/11
Anne Mathes 6/12
Annie Hawkins 6/18
Josephine Tardino 6/18
Thomas Wilson 6/19
Virginia Smith 6/25
Maryann Drews 6/27

Staff

Sandra Sterner 6/02 Premita Mathurin 6/23
Cheryl Gagnon 6/03 Jocelyn Green 6/29
Christopher Scott 6/06 Najee Holloway 6/30
Deenisha Johnson 6/10
Rosa Bivins 6/15
Christine Watson 6/17
Remona Hines 6/17

The King Is Born



On June 5, 1956, a young and charismatic musician named Elvis Presley appeared on *The Milton Berle Show*. While this was not Elvis' first television appearance, and not even his first appearance with "Uncle Miltie," his rendition of *Hound Dog* became at once both famous and infamous. Before this performance, Elvis was often captured on camera playing his guitar from the waist up. However, for *Hound Dog*, the 21-year-old Elvis threw aside his guitar so that America could watch him gyrate his body from head to toe. For these scandalous gyrations, he was dubbed "Elvis the pelvis" and panned by critics as gross and inappropriate. The publicity for this performance put Elvis into the spotlight and launched his career into orbit to become the "King of Rock 'n' Roll."

Palm Garden Post

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Rose-Colored History

This June, Rose Month, consider how a rose is more than just a mere flower. Roses are filled with symbolism and meanings that change depending on the color of the flower: red means love and passion, pink means gratitude and admiration, white means innocence, and yellow means friendship. These color-coded meanings, however, are relatively recent inventions. The symbolic importance of roses dates back to the ancient Greeks, Romans, and Persians.

Greeks told the myth of Chloris, goddess of the flowers, who transformed a woodland nymph into the "Queen of Flowers," the most beautiful flower in all the world. Chloris' husband, the West Wind, blew away the clouds so that Apollo, the god of the sun, could shine his divine light down on her. Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty, gave the flower its form. Dionysus, the god of wine, bestowed an intoxicating aroma. The three Graces gave the flower charm, joy, and splendor. It was Aphrodite who named the flower Rose, rearranging the letters of the name of her son, Eros, the god of love. The rose's unparalleled beauty was used by Iris, the rainbow goddess, and Aurora, the goddess of the dawn, to paint the morning sky. Eros would eventually use a rose to bribe Harpocrates, the goddess of silence, to keep the many secrets of his mother, Aphrodite. In these ways, the rose became a symbol of beauty, love, and silence for Greeks and Romans.

Persian legends, too, hold the rose in high esteem. The rose has grown naturally for millennia throughout the Middle East and is associated with the creation of the world and mankind. In early June, the city of Kashan in Iran holds its centuries-old Rose Festival, an annual harvest of desert roses. The roses are distilled into fragrant rose water and pure rose oils. Roses were first carried back to Europe from these harvests. Indeed, much of our modern reverence for the rose stems from these ritual harvests in Persia.