Cook's Corner **Happy birthday cakes!**

BY BETTY KAISER For the Sentinel

t our house, January is a good month. Alt's my birthday! I was born on Jan. 13, but the celebration usually starts later. Most everyone (myself included) is so tuckered out from December festivities they don't know what to do with a January birthday. "Birthday? Betty has a birthday? In January? Omigosh!"

Actually, my birthday month is kind of fun. I've learned to love getting greetings all month long. Besides, belated cards are the funniest ones on the rack. So the way I look at it, the celebration may start a little late but it also lasts longer. I milk it for all it's worth.

I just have two rules: I don't plan my own party, and I don't bake my own cake. Neither of which anyone pays much attention to. After all, most of my family is 1,000 miles away and doesn't even know it's my birthday until it's over! So I break half of my own rules and bake my own cake!

I love a good cake. Preferably homemade and chocolate. Except on my birthday. As a child, my mother always made me a buttermilk cake with boiled frosting. I still smack my lips when I think about it. I have her recipe (it follows) but somehow mine never tastes as good as hers. I think the childhood memories of coming home to a fresh cake covered with coconut, just for me, are sweeter than the cake.

I also like moist, fruity and nutty cakes. Not a dense, chewy fruitcake (like my husband adores) but something more the consistency of a spice cake. That love affair started at Kaiser's Country Diner, where once a week my dessert special would be carrot cake. The recipe below makes two 9X13-inch cakes but is easily divided. It also has sweet memories and the recipe is written on a splattered card in my own shorthand. You'll like it.

A few years ago I tasted a pineapple pecan cake that was mouthwatering good. Unfortunately, I didn't get that recipe. However, I got close. Leafing through an old Southern Living magazine, I was introduced to what they call "the ultimate recipe for Hummingbird Cake." The review said that it was their most requested cake recipe and receives rave reviews. Try it and see what you think.

Happy Birthday 2016 everyone! Celebrate with cake!

Grandma's Buttermilk Cake

(As written by Betty's mom)

3/4 cup butter

1 teaspoon baking soda 3 cups flour 2 teaspoons baking powder 1/4 teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream butter; add sugar and cream until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, beating thoroughly after each addition. Dissolve soda in buttermilk. Sift remaining dry ingredients and add alternately with the buttermilk mixture. Add vanilla. Pour into two well greased pans (round, 8-9"). Bake at 350° F. for about 35 minutes. Cool.

White Mountain Frosting

Mix in saucepan: 1/2 cup sugar 2 tablespoons water 1/4 cup light corn syrup

Cover saucepan; bring to rolling boil. Remove cover and cook to 242° or until syrup spins a 6-8-inch thread. Just before syrup is ready, (in separate bowl) beat 2 egg whites until stiff enough to hold a point.

Pour hot syrup very slowly in a thin stream into the beaten eggs whites. Continue to beat until frosting holds peaks. Blend in 1-teaspoon vanilla. Swirl frosting onto cake and (if desired) sprinkle thickly with moist, flaked coconut.

Hummingbird Cake

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 (8-ounce) can crushed pineapple, und-
- rained 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 cups chopped bananas Cream cheese frosting (see recipe below 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl; add eggs and oil, stirring until dry ingredients are moistened. (Do not beat.) Stir in vanilla, pineapple, 1 cup pecans and bananas.

Pour batter into three greased and floured 9-inch round cake pans. Bake at 350° for 25 to 30 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool

racks.

Spread Cream Cheese Frosting (recipe below) between layers and on top and sides of cake; sprinkle 1/2 cup chopped pecans on top. Store in refrigerator. Yields 16 servings.

Cream Cheese Frosting

1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened

1/2 cup butter softened 2 Cups powdered sugar 1.5 teaspoons vanilla extract Mix all ingredients together and blend well. Add a little milk if needed.

Kaiser's Original "14 Carrot Cake" (As written in kitchen)

- Mix together: 6 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups oil 3 1/2 cups sugar

Add to above and mix well: 4 cups flour 4 teaspoons baking powder 3 teaspoons baking soda

3 teaspoons cinnamon

1 teaspoon nutmeg

Then add and blend well: 1 large can crushed pineapple (16-20 ounces) not drained 4 cups grated carrots 1 cup chopped pecans (more for garnish)

Divide the batter and pour into two greased or sprayed 9X13" pans. Bake about 30 minutes. Test with toothpick. Cool on rack and frost. Store in refrigerator. Serves a lot!

Cream Cheese Frosting

- 1 cup butter (or margarine)
- 2 8 ounce packages cream cheese 2 tablespoon vanilla
- 1 egg
 - 2 pounds sifted powdered sugar

Cream together butter, cream cheese, vanilla and egg. Add powdered sugar 2 cups at a time. Beat well until smooth and creamy.

Keep it simple and keep it seasonal! Betty Kaiser's Cook's Corner is dedicated to sharing a variety of recipes that are delicious, family oriented and easy to prepare. Contact her at 942-1317 or email bchatty@ <u>bettykaiser.com</u>



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in pans on wire racks 10 minutes; remove from pans, and cool completely on wire





6th & Gibbs Church of Christ

195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 Pastor: Aaron Earlywine Youth & Families Pastor: Seth Bailey Services: 9am and 10:30am **Christian Education** Nursery for pre-k - 3rd Grade www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church

77873 Š 6th Št • 541-942-4290 Pastor: Riley Hendricks Sunday School: 9:45am Worship: 11:00am The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Calvary Chapel Cottage Grove

1447 Hwy 99 (Village Plaza) 541-942-6842 Pastor: Jeff Smith Two Services on Sun: 9am & 10:45am Wednesday Service 6:45 pm Child Care 10:45am Service Only Youth Group Bible Study: Wed. 6:45 pm & Sat. 6 pm www.cgcalvary.org

Center for Spiritual Living Cottage Grove

700 Gibbs Ave (Community Center) Rev. Bobby Lee Meets Sunday 3:00 p.m. (907) 230-5070 www.facebook.com/CSLCottageGrove

Church of Christ

420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church

1200 East Quincy Avenue 541-942-4771 Pastor:Bob Singer Worship 11am Sunday School:9:45am AWAŃA age 3-8th Grade, Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center

33761 Row River Rd. • 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Isaac Hovet www.cq4.tv Dec. 24th - Candlelight Services 4 & 8pm Dec. 27 - 10am service only

Covered Bridge Nazarene Church

152 S. M St. 541-942-4422 Pastor: Cindy Slaymaker Sunday School: 9:30am Worship 10:30am

Delight Valley

Church of Christ 33087 Saginaw Rd. East 541-942-7711 Pastor: Bob Friend Two Services: 9am - Classic in the Chapel 10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

First Baptist Church

301 S 6th St 541-942-8242 Pastor: Steve Johnson Sunday School: 9:30am Worship: 11:00am Come Worship with us

First Presbyterian Church

3rd and Adams St • 541-942-4479 Pastor: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am www.cgpresbynews.com

Grove Community Church

77820 Mosby Creek Rd. Cottage Grove, OR 97424 541-942-0123 Pastor: Bryan Parsons Worship: 10:30 a.m. Nursery: Infant - Pre-K Kid's Church: K to 5th grade

Hope Fellowship

United Pentecostal Church 100 S. Gateway Blvd. • 541-942-2061 Pastor: Dave Bragg Worship: 11:00am Sunday Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday www.hopefellowshipupc.com "FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"

Living Faith Assembly

467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612 Pastor Rulon Combs Sunday School All Ages 9am Worship & Children's Church 10:30 am "The Bridge" Sat Evening Service 6:00pm Youth 180 Mondays 5:30-8pm Children's Breakout Class: Wed. 6:30pm

Non-Denominational Church of Christ

1041 Pennoyer Ave * 541-767-0447 Preachers: Tony Martin & Robert Evans Sunday Bible Study:10:00am Sunday Worship:10:50am & 5:30pm www.pennoyeravecoc.com

Old Time Gospel Fellowship

103 S. 5th Street • 541-942-4999 Pastor: Herb Carson Sunday Service: 10:00am Sunday Bible Study: 6:00pm We sing the old time hymns.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi

Catholic Churches 1025 N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 / 541-942-4712 Pastor: Roy L. Antunez, S.J. Euch. Liturgies; Sat. 5:30pm Sun. 10:30am St. Philip Benizi, Creswell: 552 Holbrock Lane • 541-895-8686 Sunday: 8:30am

St. Andrews Episcopal Church

1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Church with the flags." Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome

Seventh-day Adventist Church

820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213 Pastor: Kevin Miller Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 am Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: James L. Markus Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am Sundway Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups tlccg.com

United Methodist Church

334 Washington • 541-942-3033 Pastor:Lura Kidner-Miesen Worship: 10:30am Adult Sunday School: 9:30am Comm. Dinner (Adults \$5, Kids Free) 2nd & 3rd Monday 5-6:00pm cottagegroveumc.org

"VICTORY" Country Church

913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: 11:00am "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

Our Worship Directory is a weekly feature in the newspaper. If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory, please contact the Cottage Grove Sentinel at 541-942-3325.