



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Thoughts of old courtship bring contentment

A walk down memory lane. Just reminiscing. We seniors enjoy doing that, especially on warm days when we know better than to run around in the heat.

I was sitting in my recliner Monday with the oscillating fan keeping me a little cooler and, for some unknown reason, I got to thinking, remembering. Sometimes I forget what I did yesterday, but long-term memories God allows me to keep.

My walk down memory lane led me to a time I was 16, going on 17. That time of life can take a lot of twists and turns. My girlfriend, Joan, had a boyfriend. I did not. In fact, I'd had only a few of what you could call dates, each accompanied by one of my big brothers as chaperone.

Joanie came up with a plan. Her boyfriend, Lee, had a friend Bob who had a friend Bill.

"Let's get them together on a blind date," Joanie says about me. Lee and Bob agreed. Bill agreed. My parents did not.

They required Bill to come to the house first and meet them. That they would even consider the wild idea sur-

prised me. Would you believe they liked this 17-year-old boy at first sight?

The only objection my opinionated father had was that Bill had blue eyes. You see, we were a family of seven -- all with dark brown eyes. Papa thought "one could not trust a man with blue eyes." He was the Archie Bunker of his day.

My parents reluctantly agreed to the date and, since I would be 17 the next month, I could go without a chaperone. It pleased them that we planned to go just three miles away with a group of young people for a picnic at Chandler Park.

That was a Sunday afternoon in August 1949. What they didn't know is that Bill and I walked around the small park in eastern Detroit holding hands. I remember feeling exhilarated and fearful at the same time.

That was how it all started. Toward the middle of September, Bill invited me to go to the fair with his family. My parents readily agreed to that. Since Bill didn't have a car, that was about the only way we could spend time together.

Anyway, my birthday was

soon approaching. He called on the phone, of course, but our calls were limited to 10 minutes (my parent's rule). And, no, we hadn't even kissed yet.

We were sitting on a bale of straw at the fair watching the goats frolic when Bill pulled out a small box and handed it to me asking if I would "go steady" with him. It was a pretty bracelet with a little plate on it that said Emma on one side and Bill on the other.

I was delighted. I never told my parents I was officially "going steady." Bill didn't tell his folks either.

It was fun finishing my senior year with a boy who thought I was special.

Little did I realize we'd be married a year and a half later and spend the next 53 years side by side. And that we would be blessed with six children, all with brown eyes. (That pleased Papa!)

Thanks for walking down memory lane with me. Bill has been with the Lord for 13 years now. But I feel rich to have my many memories.

Spruce Run area considered for scenic designation

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department seeks feedback on a study evaluating a 17-mile section of the Nehalem River for possible inclusion in the State Scenic Waterways Program.

The Nehalem River study area starts at Spruce Run Campground and ends at the boundary of Cougar Valley State Park near Cook Creek Road.

A scenic waterway designation would help protect the scenic, natural and recreation value of this section

School districts sponsor student internship program

A nearly year-long partnership that gives students a chance to have paid internships at select businesses next summer kicks off this month.

The program is managed by Clatsop Economic Development Resources or CEDR and paid for by five school districts -- Warrenton, Astoria, Jewell, Knappa and Seaside.

The program arranges internships at a variety of companies through one application process. The project-based internships are 9 weeks, with students directly hired by the companies. The goal is to connect companies with emerging talented students and create a professional employment experience for the interns.

Businesses must be located within Clatsop County, able to host an intern full time for a minimum of six weeks, provide a minimum-wage salary and provide an employee mentor for the intern.

An all-day training for businesses that have signed up is set for Wednesday, Sept. 27, at the South County Center of Clatsop Community College.

of river by forcing a review of some activities within a quarter mile of the bank.

The feedback will be used to write a report that will either recommend for or against designating the portion of the river as a state scenic waterway.

A public hearing is set for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the North County Recreation District, 36155 Ninth St., Nehalem.

As part of the designation process, scenic waterways

The training will be conducted by the McMinnville WORKS Summer Internship Program, which was developed by the McMinnville Economic Development Partnership, which has had tremendous success, organizers said.

The program received the Oregon Economic Development Association's Outstanding Collaborative Award in 2014 and the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce Award for Business Education Partnership of the year in 2015.

In Clatsop County, the program's partners are Clatsop Community College, the Northwest Regional Education Service District and Hampton Affiliates' Warrenton mill.

The Sept. 27 training workshop, which is \$59, will lay out the timetable for the recruitment and application process with intern hiring in April, and the internships running June through August.

To register for the workshop, or get more details, contact the program at 503-338-2402 or sbdc@clatsopcc.edu.

staff involve the community, evaluate public support, and objectively study the river to determine if it meets specific criteria.

The meeting will begin with a presentation to explain the scenic waterways program and the criteria the river segment must meet to be included in the program, followed by a question and answer session. The second half will be a public hearing.

For more info call 503 986-0631.

Senior lunch menu

Monday, Sept. 11: Crab cakes, roasted potatoes, broccoli, tomato soup, ice cream.

Thursday, Sept. 14: Pulled pork, pasta salad, carrots, mixed greens, bread pudding.

The Warrenton senior lunch program is at noon (doors open at 10:30 a.m.) Mondays and Thursdays at Warrenton Community Center, 170 SW Third St. Suggested donation is \$5 for ages 55 and older; \$7 for those younger. For more information, call 503-861-3502.