



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Month of love and fine men

February is a busy month.

As a girl in school, we celebrated Abraham Lincoln's birthday (known as Honest Abe) on its actual date, Feb. 12. Now it's lumped in with George Washington's birthday (known as the Father of our country). He was born Feb. 22.

The federal holiday was shifted to the third Monday in February in 1971 as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act.

This year, Presidents Day falls on Monday, Feb. 19.

My favorite day in February, as those who know me may have guessed, is Valentine's Day. That's probably a given for me, a "recovering" chocoholic. I even have heart-shaped cake pans and plan on making that famous Hershey's "Especially Dark" Chocolate Cake. Remember we have to buy the Hershey's Special Dark Cocoa for it and the recipe is on the box.

My daughter, Lynn, slathers it with whipped cream icing, but I usually use old-fashioned white butter frosting (sometimes covered with coconut).

So eat a little chocolate. I'm told a quarter of what we eat keeps us alive and three quarters keeps our doctors alive (forgive me Dr. G.). Couldn't resist!

Warrenton Senior Citizens Inc. meal site is looking forward to this coming Monday because it's two days before Valentine's Day.

Lorna, our cook, has a special meal planned. Her way of showing continuing love for us seniors is to delight us with a fabulous turkey dinner with pecan pie for dessert.

I used the word "special" several times, so be ready! It will be a special meal for sure. This is a day not just for couples, but for all of us passionate folk who don't mind showing we care.

That priest by the name of St. Valentine sure started something, didn't he? St. Valentine, priest and martyr, lived nearly 1,700 years ago in pagan Rome. Legend tells us he secretly married many couples at a time when marriage among the young was forbidden. Emperor Claudius II had sent out an edict against marriage. He believed single men were better fighters than married men.

Father Valentine eventually was caught, imprisoned and tortured for going against the edict. During his imprisonment, St. Valentine healed the blind daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and, before his execution, wrote a letter to the girl signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell, according to Wikipedia.

With Valentine's Day on the way, many remember when Rita Jamieson, who's with the Lord now, shared a favorite recipe.

Melt white almond bars, pour cranberry granola into it, stir it together and then pour it onto waxed paper until it sets. Then cut into pieces and enjoy. I suspect it isn't too unhealthy.

Schools and many businesses will close on Presidents Day and children may look at it as another holiday to play. Do me a favor and sit your grandchildren and great-grandchildren down and tell them about these two amazing men.



This Week in Aboriginal History

by Carl A. Ellis

Clatsop tribe trades three dogs for stolen elk

Feb. 9, 1611: There has been a long period of fighting between the Indian tribes of the Powhatan Confederacy and the English colonists in Virginia. While leading a Paspahugh war party near Jamestown, Chief Wochinchopunk is seen by the colonists. A fight ensues, and the chief is killed.

Feb. 10, 1890: The South Dakota "land grab," in which parts of the Great Sioux Reservation is opened to settlers, begins.

Feb. 11, 1978: The "longest walk" to protest the treatment of American Indians brings

180 Indians together for a walk from San Francisco to Washington, D.C. It's hoped more people will be aware of the forced walks Indians had been subjected to in the past.

Feb. 12, 1806: A member of the Clatsop tribe gives Lewis and Clark three dogs to replace a stolen elk.

Feb. 13, 1864: The Battle of Middle Boggy Depot takes place in Indian Territory (present-day Atoka County, Okla.) during the Civil War. Some 1,500 Union soldiers defeat poorly armed and outnumbered Confederate forces made up of Seminoles,

Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Feb. 14, 1776: The first Spanish troops arrive at what eventually becomes Needles, Calif.

Feb. 15, 1831: The U.S. Senate passes a resolution asking President Jackson whether he intends to abide by the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act passed on March 30, 1802. If not, they want to know why.

Ellis is an author and historian working on a book about American Indians. Learn more about American Indian history at [facebook.com/snippetsintime](https://www.facebook.com/snippetsintime).

Reading: Enticing young children

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urday and we are wanting to increase the groups who come and bring children into the library -- too many kids never visit libraries -- so we are trying several new ideas," said Judy Sivley, a longtime Warrenton library volunteer, supporter and promoter.

Pam and Maisie will return once each month.

Other weeks could bring out community members with high-profile jobs who come in to read books featuring their professions. Police Chief Matt Workman is signed up for Feb. 17.

"We want children to learn about community members

so they have no fear of them or the library," Sivley said.

Sivley met Holen and Maisie at Columbia Memorial Hospital, where both volunteer. Holen and Maisie also go to reading events at Astoria Public Library.

"She has the temperament, training, health, all of her shots, to be around small children," Holen said. "Some dogs don't do well around little people."

Holen and Maisie are members of Pet Partners, a therapy animal program based in Bellevue, Wash. It certifies animals who are suitable for working around children, cancer patients and others.

County OK's vacation rental ordinance

Recognizing the growing use of residential homes as vacation rentals, the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners adopted an ordinance designed to ensure the safety of renters and limit conflicts with neighbors.

The ordinance, which goes into effect July 1, regulates dwelling units, including accessory units, rented for up to 30 consecutive nights.

The rules apply only to properties in the unincorporated parts of the county.

Vacation rental owners will be required to obtain permits from the county Community Development Department. Permits will be contingent upon the property passing a safety exam.

Rental owners also will be required to collect and pay the county's transient room tax.

Senior lunch menu

Monday, Feb. 12: Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, coleslaw, pecan pie.

Thursday, Feb. 15: Spaghetti, Italian sausage, mixed vegetables, potato soup, pumpkin cake.

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.