



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Musings on spring, baseball

Take me out to the ball game;

Take me out to the park;

Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack,

I don't care if I ever get back.

Let me root, root, root for the home team;

If they don't win, it's a shame.

For it's one, two, three strikes, you're out at the old ball game.

Want some good news? Baseball players are already in serious practice games.

Only two more weeks ahead when we maybe will have winter weather and then we break into beautiful spring.

Baseball season!

Remember one month ago today when we were abuzz over results of Groundhog Day, Feb. 2.

We all kind of groaned, but the skiers were happy. Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow (on a hill outside Punxsutawney, Penn.), causing the prediction of six more weeks of winter.

I'm just not sure Groundhog Day is that accurate.

According to one national newspaper, "There is no predictive skill for the groundhog during the most recent years of the analysis," according to a report released this week by NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information in Asheville, N.C."

The article went on to note that "Flipping a coin might be as accurate as Phil.

Since 1988, the groundhog was 'right' 14 times and 'wrong' 16 times. In other

words, only 14 times did the national average temperature for the remainder of February match what would be expected based on what the groundhog predicted."

We seniors like to predict since most of us have many years to look back upon.

Recently I read that Cracker Jack turned 106 years old this year.

So you know what was going on in my head?

I started singing that catchy baseball song (by the way, baseball is my favorite sport). I could not get rid of those lyrics.

I even asked daughter Lynn to pick me up a box of Cracker Jack. Seems it comes in a bag now that weighs 4.125 ounces, supposedly giving us four servings for \$1.69 with a total of 480 calories.

Confession time.

I consumed the entire bag of that amazing molasses flavored popcorn and peanuts in just 10 minutes.

Not to be a complainer, but when I was a child in the early '40s, a box of Cracker Jacks was 5 cents.

And we got a fun prize, too.

Now a child needs a computer to unlock their prize.

By the way, mark your calendars for March 29, the official opening day of our 2018 baseball season, which, by the way, is the earliest opening day since 1968.

Think I will close with a bit of baseball trivia.

In 1857, the Base Ball Convention held in New York changed the length of a game to nine equal innings, instead of declaring the first team to score 21 runs as the winner.



This Week in Aboriginal History

by Carl A. Ellis

Soldiers kill a settlement of Christian converts

March 1, 1851: Federal commissioners attempting to halt the brutal treatment of Indians in California negotiate 18 treaties with various tribes and village groups, promising them 8.5 million acres of reservation lands.

California politicians had the treaties secretly rejected by Congress in 1852, leaving native people in the state homeless within a hostile non-native society.

March 2, 1992: President George H.W. Bush proclaims 1992 the "Year of the American Indian," leading activists, educators and others to re-evaluate the consequences of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the Americas in 1492.

March 4, 1973: The Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council passes a resolution terminating all existing coal permits and leases with corporations that are strip-mining 60 percent of the tribe's reservation in Montana.

March 5, 1831: The Su-

preme Court decides in the case of Cherokee Nation v. Georgia that the Cherokees are not a "foreign state and therefore the court has no jurisdiction in the dispute." The court does decide that the Cherokees are a distinct political society capable of governing itself and managing its own affairs.

March 6, 1777: Seventy Shawnee warriors led by Chief Blackfish attack settlers near Harrodsburg, Ky. One white man managed to escape capture and warn the settlement.

March 7, 1782: Problems boil over between soldiers and Indians from the Delaware, Mahican and Munsee tribes who had converted to Christianity in Pennsylvania's Moravian movement.

Many had moved to the Muskingum River in Ohio after their old villages were attacked by other tribes. At the outbreak of the American Revolutionary war, the "Moravian Indians" found

themselves in limbo between American and British forces and their allies. Both sides believed the "Moravians" were helping the others.

On this date, Col. David Williamson and American soldiers from Pennsylvania surround the peaceful village of Gnadenhutten. While some refuse to participate, the majority of soldiers decides to kill the Moravian Indians.

Ninety-six Indian men, women and children were slain in cold blood after being allowed a final prayer.

March 8, 1876: President Grant issues an executive order restoring to the public domain a tract of country that had been set apart for the Crow Indians on the Crow reservation in Montana Territory.

Ellis is an author and historian who is working on a book about American Indians. Learn more about American Indian history at facebook.com/snippetsintime.

Police levy: Funds raised would prevent staff cut

Continued from Page 1

facilities bond before voters, asking for enough money over the next two decades to build a multi-campus school compound outside the tsunami zone.

Clatsop County will ask voters to approve funding for an

expanded jail facility in Warrenton to prevent the constant release of inmates due to lack of beds.

Two commissioners asked whether additional police funding might be needed. Engbretson replied the city wants to be sensitive to what

residents are able to pay.

"We just asked for library funding," Engbretson said. "This would just be continuing what people have been paying for many years.

"We want to be able to continue to fund the officers we have."

If approved, the levy is expected to raise about \$168,500 in the first year and increase slightly over the five-year period as home values improve and more homes are built.

The money can be used for police operations only.

City Commissioners unanimously approved placing the measure on the ballot.

Senior lunch menu

Monday, March 5: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, ice cream.

Thursday, March 8: Salmon, parsley butter potatoes, broccoli, pea soup, 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.