



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Women, men and spring

"To be happy with a man, you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman, you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all."

The quote is from author Helen Rowland, who was born in 1875. So what has changed more than 100 years later? I almost feel that I'm betraying my gender by sharing this statement.

Seems all too often there is a commercial on TV about where to "put" Mom "when the time comes" that she can no longer live on her own. Then comes the list of amenities, such as a golf course, swimming pool, spa and nearby shopping centers and theaters. Enough to wear out the average younger person. Seldom do we hear about "where to put dear old Dad." Yes, I know statistically women live longer than men. And some lose the "spring" in their step.

Speaking of spring, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that spring officially arrives Tuesday at 12:15 p.m. EST. The spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere always occurs on either March 20 or 21. So, how do "they" decide what day is the *first* day of spring? Most of us know it has to do with the sun. Folklore fits in to some beliefs at springtime too.

As a child, we didn't have television or hand-held devices to play games upon. We were blessed to have time for experiments such as standing a raw egg on end on the first day of spring.

Apparently, this derives from the notion that special gravitational forces apply due

to the sun's equidistant position between the poles of the earth at the time of the equinox.

"While it's true that on both the spring and the fall equinox the earth's axis is perpendicular to the sun, making day and night of equal length, there's no scientific reason to suppose such an alignment exerts any perceptible effect on solid objects here on earth," according to one source I ran into.

"Plus, if the equinox can cause this curious gravitational anomaly, why not others? Why don't we see people standing pencils, lollipops and foot-long hot dogs on end on the first day of spring or autumn? Why only eggs?"

In fond memory of my mostly happy childhood, I will stick with the eggs. Hey, it works! I still believe in the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus too!

Other things related to spring in my still-working cache of memory are my blooming crocus and singing birds (I am told they sing to the lengthening sun). Another is that worms begin to emerge from the earth for the hungry trout. And, of course, trees, shrubs and wildflowers burst out in foliage and bloom.

What else can I say? Spring is time to start planting. Spring is a happy time.

In fairness to both sexes, I will end with another Helen Rowland quote: *"There are people whose watch stops at a certain hour and who remain permanently at that age."*

Are you that person? Get out there and dig some worms and go catch yourself a nice fat trout for supper.

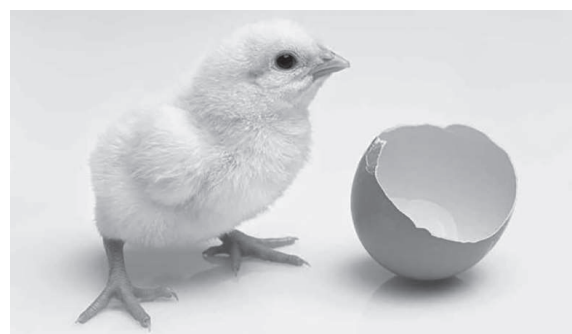
'Chick Cam' offers live look at hatchings

The popular Chick Cam from Oregon State University Extension Service, Clatsop County, has returned.

The 24-hour video camera follows the fate of a dozen chicken eggs from hatching until they emerge on the expected due date of March 20.

March 23 will be the final day of live viewing.

In years past, the Chick Cam went viral as people discovered the fascination of



watching nature at work.

In one week, thousands of viewers watched the Chick Cam for an average of four minutes, checking back time

after time to see the progress.

At intervals throughout the 10-day viewing, Extension experts will broadcast lessons on hatching and brooding baby chicks, including raising chickens

in urban environments and backyard coop designs.

To watch, go online to extension.oregonstate.edu/clatsop.



This Week in Aboriginal History

by Carl A. Ellis

Company's attack was aimed at Crazy Horse

March 17, 1876: Gen. George Crook's advance column attacks a Sioux/Cheyenne camp on the Powder River in South Dakota, mistakenly believing it's the encampment of Lakota warrior Crazy Horse. The lodges and all winter supplies were burned and the horse herd captured.

March 18, 1877: Groups of Indians visit Col. Nelson Miles to see if he'll negotiate on surrender terms. Miles informs the large group of chiefs that his terms haven't changed, but they can surrender at an alternative agency.

Little Hawk, Crazy Horse's uncle, agrees to bring the Indians into Miles' camp or one of the agencies. Nine im-

portant Indians remain with Miles as hostages, as a sign of good faith.

March 19, 1840: The Southern Cheyenne hold several white prisoners. They request a meeting to discuss peace and trade prisoners.

The Comanches bring one prisoner, Matilda Lockhart, to the San Antonio council house. They tell the white representatives -- Hugh McCloud, adjutant general of the Texas Army, William Cooke and William Fisher -- that each prisoner must be released through an additional meeting.

Lockhart was mutilated while in Comanche hands, which incenses the whites. They surround the Indians,

and tell them they'll be hostages until all white prisoners are released. A fight erupts, and seven whites, 33 Comanches and all of the chiefs.

March 20, 1699: French explorer Lemoyne d'Iberville continues his exploration up the Mississippi River and visits the village of the Houma.

March 21, 1883: Chato, Bonito and Chihuahua raid a mining town near Tombstone, Ariz., seeking ammunition and other supplies. This is just the pretext Gen. George Crook needs to attack Chato's stronghold in Mexico. By 1886, Chato will help Crook pursue Geronimo in Mexico.

March 22, 1622: The first major battle of European colonists by aboriginals takes place. Opechancanough, the Powhatan chiefdom's dominant leader, leads an assault on Jamestown, VA, killing nearly 350 English

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

Senior lunch menu

Monday, March 19: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, coleslaw, key lime pie.

Thursday, March 22: Lasagna, garlic bread, broccoli, romaine salad, ice cream.

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.