



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Three blind mice, three bull elk and the nature of three

Tuesday morning, while working on my column, I looked out my sliding glass doors and what do I see? Three gigantic bull elk having their breakfast on the uncut lawn across the street.

I went on my patio and they graciously let me take their pictures. (I went back in my house when they decided to cross the street and see what I was up to!)

I had already begun today's column about things that occur in threes. It gave me a chuckle as well as an opening paragraph.

A common element you may have noticed in fairy tales is how often there are three main characters.

Recently, as I was sharing with two friends, we got on the topic of how often things come in threes. Stories followed.

Often, we hear of a death quickly followed by another and then another. Then comes that adage about things occurring in threes.

In my "curious as a cat" way, I decided to do a bit of research. We seniors find it nothing new, but I wonder if we've ever realized the power of three? That's a term referred to in so many areas.

The encyclopedia Britannica tells us about the earbone, also called the auditory ossicle, which is any of the three tiny bones mammals -- that's us -- have in the middle ear. The bones are the malleus, or hammer; the incus, or anvil; and the stapes, or stirrup.

Many fairy tales were written in the 1700s and 1800s. Think of those with three main characters: The Three Bears, Three Little Kittens



and the Three Little Pigs. And remember how Rumpelstiltskin gave the queen three tries to guess his name? Cinderella and her two evil sisters equals three. There were Three Blind Mice. And on and on.

Christianity recognizes three persons in the Trinity of God — the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit.

There were three main patriarchs in the Old Testament — Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jesus was resurrected from the grave three days after his death and burial. Most remember the three Hebrew men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who were thrown in the furnace and not harmed.

Others in the Bible include the three wise men, three kings, three gardens and three pools, to name a few.

There are three-ring circus, three stooges, three French hens, three billy goats gruff, three-piece suits and tricycles. And think about the popular BLT sandwich or the admonition to "Hear no evil. Speak no evil. See no evil."

As you become more conscious of things occurring in threes -- note how much easier it is to remember people's

names when you meet three at a time rather than one!

One more thing about the number three is that it contains a beginning, a middle and an end. The nature of the world as heaven, earth and waters is called the tripartite and also describes humans as body, soul and spirit.

This Week in Aboriginal History

by Carl A. Ellis



Monument Valley named Navajo Tribal Park

July 6, 1711: Hostilities escalate between Indians and settlers in North Carolina after settlers are massacred in the wake of white encroachment and the enslaving of Indian children.

July 7, 1540: Coronado attacks the Zuni village of Hawikuh in what becomes New Mexico.

July 8, 1539: The Francisco de Ulloa Expedition leaves Acapulco to explore the coast of Baja California with three ships, the Santa Agueda, the Trinidad, and the Santo.

The expedition proves that California is not an island.

July 9, 1981: The first issue of The Lakota Times rolls off the press.

July 10, 1694: Colonists

Sign up for future Shop the Docks

The next "Shop at the Dock & Beyond" events are 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Friday, July 13, at the Warrenton Marina Commercial Docks, 200 N.E. Heron Ave.

The event, sponsored by Oregon Sea Grant, will provide information about local commercial fisheries, where to find local seafood and provide a behind-the-scenes

tour of a local market. Tours are 90 minutes long. Participants should wear comfortable shoes and arrive 15 minutes early.

To participate, contact the Oregon State University Extension Office at 503-325-8573 at least three days before the event.

July 20 is the final Shop at the Dock.

Mausoleum wins preservation grant

Oceanview Cemetery in Warrenton and Prairie Cemetery in Knappa both received grants recently from the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries.

The state agency awarded \$61,500 to 14 historic cemetery projects throughout the state to support preservation efforts, repair work and visitor education.

Individual awards ranged

\$1,680 to \$8,260.

The grant for Oceanview Cemetery will help pay for restoration of the mausoleum.

The grant for Prairie Cemetery will be used to install fencing and construct a parking area.

Historic cemeteries are documented by the agency and must include the burial of at least one person who died before Feb. 14, 1909.

July 12, 1784: Congress negotiates with the Iroquois to obtain their claim on land north of the Ohio River.

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, July 9: Pork goulash, boiled potatoes, mixed vegetables, tomato/cucumber salad, pumpkin cake.

Thursday, July 12: Beef Burgundy, noodles, broccoli, spinach salad, glorified rice.

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.