



FREE

Leisure Times

February 2, 2006

Happy Groundhog Day!!!!

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~Anonymous

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FAST FACTS

- Woodchuck and groundhog are common terms for the same animal, the rodent with the scientific name of Marmota monax.
- Groundhog hairs are used for tying trout flies
- Early American Indians once used sturdy woodchuck hides for soles of moccasins
- By February, hibernating woodchucks have lost as much as half their body weight.
- Groundhog day stems from the ancient belief that hibernating creatures were able to predict the arrival of springtime by their emergence.
- The German immigrants known as Pennsylvania Dutch brought the tradition to America in the 18th century.
- The groundhog and badger were not the only animals that have been used to predict spring. Other Europeans used the bear or hedgehog--but in any case the honor belonged to a creature that hibernated.

New Bus Service between Linden and Three Hills the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month for visiting, shopping, medical or personal appointments. \$5 per round trip. To book your seat and for further information call Seniors Outreach 443-2555.

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TRIVIA

1. Which province is the only one that doesn't have any groundhogs?
2. Groundhogs are related to squirrels. True or False?
3. What was the name of the Pennsylvania Dutch holiday that is celebrated around Groundhog Day?
4. Where did Groundhog day originate in North America?
5. What is another "W" name for a Groundhog or Woodchuck?
6. What is so special about Canada's Warton Willy?

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Don't forget:
Valentines Day is February 14th
Family Day is February 20th



This Week In History

- 1846 Mormons leave Nauvoo MO for settlement in the west
- 1863 Samuel Clemens becomes Mark Twain for 1st time
- 1865 Birth of Lewis E. Jones, American YMCA director. Jones was also a writer of hymns, and his most enduring contribution (which he both wrote and composed) was "Power in the Blood."
- 1870 1st motion picture shown to a theater audience, Philadelphia
- 1916 Canada's original Parliament building, in Ottawa, burns down
- 1922 Reader's Digest magazine 1st published
- 1926 Walt Disney Studios is formed
- 1935 Board game "Monopoly" goes on sale for the 1st time
- 1962 8 of 9 planets align for 1st time in 400 years
- 1964 GI Joe, debuts as a popular American boy's toy
- 1964 Cassius Clay becomes a Muslim & adopts the name Muhammad Ali
- 1974 Chimpanzee Nim Chimsky signs his 1st word, at 2½ months
- 1977 Radio Shack officially begins creating the TRS-80 computer
- 1993 Pebbles Flintstone & Bamm Bamm Rubble wed
- 1998 Bill Gates gets a pie thrown in his face in Brussels Belgium

On the Lighter Side

I bet you don't know what day this is", said the wife to her husband as he made his way out the front door.

The husband was perplexed, but was always a quick thinker: "Of course I do, my dear. How could I forget!?" With that, he turned and rushed to catch the bus for work.

At 10 AM, the doorbell rang and when the woman opened the door, she was handed a box containing a dozen long stemmed red roses.

At 1 PM, a foil wrapped, two pound box of her favorite chocolates arrived.

Later, a boutique delivered a designer dress. The woman couldn't wait for her husband to come home.

The husband was smug when he returned from work, satisfied that he had recovered what could have been a very bad situation.

His wife was indeed surprised: "First the flowers, then the chocolates and then the dress!" she exclaimed, "I've never had a more wonderful Groundhog Day in my life!"

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- February 2**
- 1955 Brent Spiner actor (Data(2338)-Star Trek the Next Generation)
 - 1963 Pebbles Flintstone fictional character on "The Flintstones"
- February 3**
- 1894 Norman Rockwell artist/illustrator (Sat Evening Post covers)
 - 1920 Dr Henry Heimlich doctor/inventor (Heimlich maneuver)
- February 4**
- 1902 Charles A Lindbergh pilot (1st fly solo across Atlantic)
 - 1906 Dietrich Bonhoeffer German theologian (Confessing Church)
- February 5**
- 1837 Dwight Lyman Moody evangelist (Student Volunteer Movement)
- February 6**
- 1895 George Herman (Babe) Ruth baseball great (Yankees)
 - 1911 Ronald Reagan actor (Bedtime for Bonzo)/40th President (R) (1981-89)
- February 7**
- 1812 Charles Dickens England, novelist (Oliver Twist, Tale of 2 Cities)
 - 1962 Garth Brooks country singer (No Fences, Ropin' the Wind)
- February 8**
- 1828 Jules Verne France, pioneered sci-fi (20,000 Leagues Under the Sea)
 - 1955 John Grisham writer (Client, Firm, Pelican Brief)

LOOK

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Groundhog day

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u p e e l s e i w a r e o r k
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t j l x h q e e n a a g d u q
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y o w v u r d t f i b r n n u
n w b j p a z i z e u m x n u

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See next week's paper for the solution

Word Search

Brought to you by:



- burrow
- candlemas
- celebration
- cloudy
- early
- February
- forecast
- hibernate
- late
- prognostication
- Punxatawny Phil

- rodent
- shadow
- six
- sleep
- spring
- sunny
- sunrise
- weather
- Warton Willie
- winter
- woodchuck

Answers to Trivia

1. Prince Edward Island
2. True
3. Candlemas
4. Punxatawny, Pennsylvania
5. Whistle Pig
6. He's an Albino Groundhog

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Jan 26 Solution: Fast Food