



Beaver News

EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY NEWS

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BY CHARMAINE USUANLELE



Happy February!!! As you may know, February is Black History Month. We celebrate Black History month to acknowledge the fact that no matter your skin color, you can accomplish anything if you try hard enough. Right now, everyone can go to the same school, despite their skin color. But it wasn't always like this. Around the 1900s, African American people didn't get the right to vote or go to the same school as white people. Despite all the hardships and challenges African Americans have accomplished many amazing things.

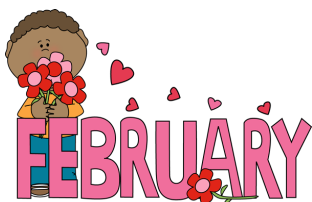


Martin Luther King Jr is one of them. We have all heard his famous "I have a dream" speech. He was born on January 15 1929 but sadly was assassinated by James Earl Ray on April 4th 1968. But before his life came to an end, he accomplished many things. For example, Martin Luther King Jr. skipped 9th and 12th grade and entered college at the age of 15. In February 1959 Martin Luther King Jr. traveled to India to study Mahatma Gandhi's principles of non-violence. He won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, for "Non-violent resistance to racial prejudice in America". He is considered one of the greatest speakers in American history because of his "I Have A Dream" speech. He will always be remembered for all the great things he did to fight for civil rights for poor people of all races.

You have also probably heard of Oprah Winfrey because she is always in the news. My last article about the movie, A Wrinkle in Time. Oprah Winfrey happens to be starring in it. But Oprah has done a lot more than simply star in a movie. She was, and still is the richest African American woman. She has beat poverty and racism to become one of the most famous TV show hosts ever. She has interviewed countless celebrities, including Michael Jackson, whose interview became the 4th most watched event in American television history, as well as the most watched interview of all-time. These are just a few things she has accomplished and she continues to be one of the most influential black woman in the world.



These are just two African Americans who have done great things. So, no matter your skin color, gender, age, height or weight, you can do anything if you put your mind to it. Don't let people bully you for what makes you special. Because no matter what people say about you, you're special in your unique way. Anyways, I hope you have a happy February.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

BY ELIANA BROWN



& EJ BEATTIE



Valentine's Day is celebrated every year on February 14th. Although the name is Saint Valentine's Day, most people refer to the day as Valentine's Day. The holiday we know today got its name from a man named Valentine. While a few different stories are told about what he did to inspire the holiday, many people believe he's celebrated for his role as a Roman priest who helped couples secretly get married.

As the story goes, Emperor Claudius II of Rome who reigned from the year 268 A.D. to 270 A.D. banned marriage because he thought unmarried men made better soldiers. Valentine thought this was unfair and decided to break the rules and perform marriages anyway.

In modern times Valentine's Day is celebrated as a day of love. People of all ages exchange cards and gifts to show friends and family their care.



Some fun Valentine's Day Facts:

1. In the United States, the first mass-produced Valentines of embossed paper lace were produced and sold shortly after 1847 by Ester Howland (1828-1904) of Worcester, Massachusetts.
2. Valentine's Day is the second most popular day of the year for sending cards, second only to Christmas.
3. On Valentine's Day every year, there are at least 36 million heart shape boxes of chocolates sold.
4. At least 9 million people buy their pets a gift on Valentine's Day.
5. Over 50 million roses are given on Valentine's Day.
6. Teachers receive the most Valentine's Day cards each year. They have an unfair advantage :)



SUPER BLUE BLOOD MOON

BY GRETA NIEMANN



Did you get a chance to see the super moon on January 31st? The super moon also known as the super blue blood moon is basically a full moon at its closest point to Earth during its orbit. So you're thinking, but I've seen a full moon before, what's so special about this moon? Well, this moon is extra special because it is also a blue moon which is the second full moon in a calendar month. A blue moon is special because it occurs during a lunar eclipse. A lunar eclipse happens when the Earth moves between the sun and the moon, blocking sunlight from hitting the moon. As this happens, the moon takes on a reddish color, which is how it got the name "blood moon".

Stay with me because I know it's a little confusing so because the super moon on January 31st occurred during a lunar eclipse, it is also a blue moon and a blood moon, that is why it is called a "super blue blood moon".

The super moon was quite a sight to behold. People who live on the west coast got a better view of this spectacular moon but I hope that you got to see a glimpse of it.



Punxsutawney Phil

By: EVE SEXTON



Punxsutawney Phil is the name of a groundhog in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. On February 2 (Groundhog Day) each year, the town of Punxsutawney celebrates the legendary groundhog with a special ceremony. During the ceremony Phil emerges from his temporary home. According to the tradition, if Phil sees his shadow and returns to his hole, he has predicted six more weeks of winter-like weather. If Phil does not see his shadow, he has predicted an "early spring."

Now, Punxsutawney Phil is not exactly a meteorologist. The Groundhog Day celebration is rooted in a Celtic and Germanic tradition that says that if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on February 2, the Pagan holiday of Imbolc (known among Christians as Candlemas), winter and cold weather will last another six weeks.

So how many times has Punxsutawney Phil gotten the prediction correct. Well, as of 2017, Punxsutawney Phil has made 131 predictions, with an early spring (no shadow) predicted 18 times (13.85%). According to Stormfax, as of 2016 the predictions have proven correct 39% of the time. There you have it folks.



PRESIDENT'S DAY

By: JOSH TAYLOR



& CHARLIE BERRY



Every year, the third Monday of February is set aside by the federal government to honor two of our greatest presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and their contributions to the nation. Although Presidents Day was originally meant to honor these two presidents, it has grown to honor every president for their service to our country.

In honor of President's Day we've put together some of our favorite fun facts about presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln:

George Washington was our first president of the United States. Some of his favorite dishes were cream of peanut soup, mashed sweet potatoes with coconut, and string beans with mushrooms. He bred hound dogs that he treated like members of the family. He gave some of them unusual names: Tartar, Truelove, and Sweet Lips. Toothaches bothered him for years. When he was 57, he had all his teeth pulled. From then on, he wore ivory false teeth set in a silver plate.



Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He was also the tallest president at 6ft.4in. Abraham Lincoln often stored things like letters and documents in his tall stove-piped hat. He was known as a gifted storyteller and liked to tell jokes. Abraham Lincoln was the first American President to wear a beard. He was largely self-educated and taught himself law. He also believed that slavery was wrong. He didn't want slavery to be legal in the new states. He thought the new states should be given to poor people to make a better life, not to rich slave owners. These views made him unpopular. Fortunately, Lincoln wasn't afraid of being disliked. He believed in doing what was right, no matter what.

