

## Horoscopes and Covenant Place Birthdays



If you were born between February 1 and 18, you are an Aquarius. Water Bearers have attractive personalities, and are very imaginative and intuitive. Aquarians have a strong desire to help humanity and create unity. People born between February 19 and 29 are Pisces. These Fish have boundless imaginations and often become gifted artists. Their great capacity for love and depth of feeling make them sensitive and caring souls.

Beryl Faulkner	February 6 <sup>th</sup>
Rose Tubbs	February 10 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth Love	February 18 <sup>th</sup>
Virginia Prater	February 22 <sup>d</sup>



### Food for Thought

*As you all know, food is a very important part of your every day life. With that being said we have implemented a new menu system. This new system will accommodate some of the items you have suggested during the resident council meeting. We strive hard to make sure everyone is happy with the food.*



### Notable Quotable

“When I think about country music, I think about America.”

~ Johnny Cash, musician

### Calendar Confusion *continued from pg. 1*

Cleopatra shared this system with her boyfriend Julius Caesar, and Caesar decided to fix the Roman calendar. In the year 46 B.C., Caesar instituted a year that lasted 445 days – later called the Year of Confusion – to reset the entire calendar. Then he started a new 12-month-long year of 365 days, with an extra Leap Day added every fourth year to make up for the lost. But this still was not perfect.

This extra day was still 11 minutes too long, which meant that an entire extra day would be added to the calendar every 128 years. That may seem small, but 1,000 years later, these created major problems. Now it was Pope Gregory XIII's turn to fix the calendar. He decided to keep the Leap Day, but only one out of every four “century years” would observe a Leap Year. The years 2000 and 2400 are Leap Years, but 2100, 2200, and 2300 are not. We still use this Gregorian calendar today. As for people born on February 29, known as Leap lings, no official ruling has yet been made on how to count their age.



# The Covenant Connection

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**Bird Feeding Month**

**Black History Month**

**International Snow Sculpting Week**

*February 1-5*

**Ballet Day**  
*February 7*

**Paul Bunyan Day**  
*February 12*

**Westminster Dog Show**  
*February 13-14*

**Valentine's Day (Elvis is here)**  
*February 14*

**Sword Swallower's Day**  
*February 25*

**Leap Year Day**  
*February 29*

### Calendar Confusion

Ever feel the need to make up for lost time? You're not alone. In fact, the entire world will be making up for lost time on February 29, the Leap Day for 2012's Leap Year.

Ancient cultures kept calendars like we do today, but these were based on lunar cycles that followed the phases of the moon, making each month only 29.5 days long. One year would last only 354 days, not nearly enough days for an actual year, which lasts 365.242 days, the

amount of time it takes the Earth to orbit the sun.

These 354-day calendars wreaked havoc when it came to celebrating annual holidays. As the years passed, autumn harvest festivals were celebrated during the spring planting season! The Egyptians were the first culture to correct the amount of days, and they even added an extra day, a Leap Day, to the calendar every fourth year to prevent these problems.

*Continued on pg. 4*

### Valentines' With Elvis

Harvey (Elvis) is from Houston, Texas. He has been an Elvis fan for as long as he can remember. He never saw Elvis in person but while serving in the Navy, he meets Jimmy “Orion” Ellis, a country singer who had a superb Elvis style in his singing. It was also around this time that Harvey saw his first two Elvis impersonators. These experiences, along with his love of Elvis inspired him to portray Elvis at a few parties and the response was wonderful. So today, many years later he is still impersonating Elvis. And he will be here to celebrate Valentines' with us. So ladies hold on to your hearts and join us for this much anticipated concert.





*The wire fox terrier has won more of Westminster's Best in Show awards than any other breed.*

## Best in Show

Tune in February 13-14 to see canines of all breeds strut their stuff at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. The first Westminster Dog Show was held in 1877, making it the second-longest-running annual sporting event in America after the Kentucky Derby. The show originated as a show for hunting dogs. A group of hunters who met at the Westminster Hotel in New York City wanted to see who had the best setter or pointer.

Today, 2,500 dogs compete in seven groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, and Herding.

In the end, the winners of the seven groups compete for Best in Show. The wire fox terrier has won this honor the most, at 13 times. America's most popular dog breeds, the Labrador retriever and the golden retriever, have never won... unless you count the hearts of their owners.

## J-E-L-L-O (the recipe for the month)

There is no other dessert as wiggly and as jiggy as Jell-O. In fact, there is nothing quite like this gelatinous children's treat, so why shouldn't it have its own weeklong celebration? February 12-18 is Jell-O Week.

suspicious of this strange, colorful, and wiggly food. In 1904, thousands of salesmen were sent door-to-door to give away free Jell-O cookbooks, a very innovative practice at the time. Popularity surged and by 1906, sales topped \$1 million dollars. Jell-O had truly become "America's Most Famous Dessert."

During the 1800s in England, gelatin desserts were popular among the rich and famous. Party hosts would present fantastic jelly moulds of different shapes and sizes to their guests. But these fabulous jellies were expensive and hard to make. It wasn't until 1845 that Peter Cooper, the inventor of the first steam-powered locomotive, invented powdered gelatin. Cooper, though, never thought much of his idea and sold the product to a cough syrup maker named Pearl B. Wait. It was Pearl Wait who christened this new product Jell-O.

Can't wait to try a variety of Jell-O flavors? **Enjoy this recipe for 8-Layer Jell-O:**

First Layer:  
1 package cherry Jell-O  
1 cup boiling water  
1/2 cup cold water

Second Layer:  
1 package cherry Jell-O  
1 cup boiling water  
3/4 cup evaporated milk

Repeat steps with lemon, lime, and orange Jell-O. Be sure to let each layer set until firm in a 9 X 13-inch pan before adding the next layer.

Jell-O may be the first real advertising success story. Consumers were, at first,



*The first four Jell-O flavors were orange, lemon, strawberry, and raspberry. Lime was introduced in 1930.*

## White Out



*The entire town becomes engulfed in flour as people go after each other armed to the teeth with bags of the white stuff. The perfect blow is a handful delivered to the face, smothering the cheeks, mouth, and nose.*

The February days leading up to the start of Lent can get pretty crazy. New Orleans has Mardi Gras, and the Caribbean Islands celebrate Carnivale. But the town of Viana do Bolo, in the Galicia region of northwest Spain, has a tradition that takes the cake — or rather, that takes the cake flour. This is the Flour Battle, where locals, armed with bags of the powder, douse each other until the entire town is covered in a blanket of white.

The festival is not all throwing flour. The Galicians are Spainards, after all, and they love their music and food. Drummers known as the *Folion* arrive, arrive wearing elaborate costumes and drumming their region's unique beat. The drums rumble louder and louder, with each region competing for their beat to be heard. Drummers march to a local sports arena where 3,000 locals are waiting to feast, each diner banging his fork and knife on the

table to the beat of the *Folion*. If you're looking for a quiet lunch, this isn't the place.

But of course, the true spectacle is the Flour Battle. The specific origins of this tradition are lost in time, but some speculate that the white flour is symbolic of innocence. During the festival, the entire community is covered and thereby purified for Lent.

The Galicians are not the only ones who throw things in the days leading up to Lent. In Venezuela, people throw tomatoes and eggs. They used to throw water balloons until the police deemed them too dangerous, because they were causing traffic accidents. In Colombia, children throw egg shells filled with colored and perfumed water. Across the globe, these pre-Lenten festivals all hold one thing in common — lots of people are blowing off lots of pent-up steam before a long season of repentance and fasting.

## Here to Serve you

Executive Director-  
David Collins

Activities Director- Ann  
Erwin

Business Director-  
Cynthia Erixon

Maintenance Director-  
Francisco Gutierrez

Director of Resident  
Services- Jessica  
McKenzie

Food Service Director –  
Mindy Hatfield



*"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else."  
~ Fred Rogers*