

# What on Earth

## Is Happening in the Clearfork Valley

Comments and suggestions to What On Earth P.O. Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730

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Volume 16 Issue 2

### Snows Past

By Gary L. Garrett

I'm at home on this winters' eve- the lights are off, as well as the radio and TV.

I'm having a celebration. For all I can hear is the wind blowing and the birds-the red cardinals, the chickadees and the blue birds.

All are chirping just outside my window; looking for food and having a lively conversation.

I often wonder," What are they really saying?" But **fun** in any language can be heard.

I'm looking out into a beautiful picture show- of trees glistening, covered in snow, of heavy laden shrubs bending low; all framed by my window.

The flying snow endless in its pursuit to fall gracefully to the ground is slowly piling up into a mound.

It's funny how when it falls it doesn't make a sound.

As I sit here at my kitchen table in the quiet peering out into the near dark snowy evening I am reminded of my younger days-

How we (my brothers and sisters and every kid in the neighborhood) would put on our socks, wrap our feet in bread bags that mom had saved just for such an occasion and then our boots and play.

The day was filled with endless snowball fights, the making of snow forts and snowmen in a variety of shapes and sizes their black eyes made from small shards of coal and our favorite- was **sliding**- we would slide forever on anything that we could make go down a hill.

A sleigh was a rare thing to have but we improvised- garbage can lids, cardboard and the best for flying really fast; a **big thrill**-was an old car hood- it was heavy and would knock down anything that got in our way- **except** that big tree didn't give much; we saw stars for days. I don't know how we managed, for we were so small, to pull that car hood up that step slate dump hill.

We could be heard for miles; our shrills and our shouts. God only knows what kept us from going over the cliff and how we kept from breaking bones, Guardian angels, no doubt, which keep us- still.

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### Area Happenings

#### Bingo

CCI

11:00 p.m.

February 22

March 7th

March 21st

#### Donkey Ball game

Clairfield School

March 4th

at 7:00pm

#### Spring Break!

Clairfield March 21-25

WhiteOak March 25 -  
April 1st.

"Judge each day not by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant."

*Robert Louis Stevenson*

## The History of Valentine's Day

By April Jarocki

Valentine's day is named after a martyred Saint Valentine. There were three different martyred saints named either Valentine or Valentinus, no one really knows which saint the holiday is named after. There are many legends surrounding this holiday, one of which says that he was imprisoned and sentenced to death for performing secret weddings when Emperor Claudis II outlawed marriage for young men believing that single men made better soldiers. Another says that while imprisoned (doesn't say if it was the same saint or another) he fell in love with a young lady, possibly his jailer's daughter; there are two different stories based on this legend, one is she came to visit him and the other is he healed her. Either way it is believed that he wrote the first "valentine" to this young lady right before his death and signed it "your Valentine".

Written Valentines did not begin appearing until the 1400's. The oldest known written valentine is part of the Manuscript collection of the British Library in London, England. It was written in 1415 by Charles Duke of Orleans to his wife. Valentines is celebrated in many countries, by the 18<sup>th</sup> century in Great Britain it was common to exchange hand written notes and small gifts. Due to the improvement of printing technology in the early 1900's printed cards began to replace handwritten cards. It is believed that Valentine began in America in the 1700's. In the 1840's Esther A. Howland, known as the mother of valentine, began selling the first mass produced cards made from lace, ribbons, and small pictures known as scrap.

According to the Greeting Card Association Valentine's Day is the second highest card selling days of the year, 141 billion cards are sold annually following Christmas 2.6 billion. Did you know that 85% of cards are purchased by women and 50% cards are bought six days prior to Valentine's Day?



## All Natural Home Remedy

With all this cold weather hitting us, there are a lot of illnesses getting shared. Honey has been around for many years and used raw honey is antibiotic, antiviral, antiseptic, antitoxic, anti-inflammatory, and anti-fungal, so its no surprise that it has been used since the ancient times. Greeks used it in the hopes of living longer and in ancient Egypt it was used to treat wounds.

Garlic is another natural antibiotic that has been used since ancient times. Egyptians gave it to the builders of the pyramids to keep them strong. In Greece it was given to Olympians before they competed and to soldiers before battle. It has been mentioned in ancient medical texts around the world.

Honey and garlic are found in most kitchens, so it only seems natural using the two in combination would only be more beneficial to your health. I recently read a recipe that does combine the two.

### Honey Garlic

Raw honey (try to get some local honey)

Peeled cloves of garlic

Put the cloves of garlic in a mason jar (or any other container that you choose). Pour the honey in at least to cover the garlic. Make sure to leave at least 2 inches from the top. Put the lid on. Remember the garlic will float to the top so every so often flip your jar over to coat the garlic. And while you flip it loosen the lid and "burp" it to release the built up gas (this will help prevent the possibility of exploding jars). Place jar in a dark cabinet and remember to "burp" and flip every so often (every other day would work). It should be ready in 4-6 weeks.

When you begin to feel sick just begin eating the cloves, about 4-6 on the first day is helpful and as needed after that. It usually only takes 2-3 days to knock the cold bug out. Or you can brew a tea with ginger, a teaspoon or 2 of apple cider vinegar, a sprinkle of cayenne pepper and a spoonful of the garlic honey. The tea is also good for a slight immunity boost.

This honey garlic also can be used in recipes, I read that it tastes great in stir fries.

Warning: Don't feed a child under 1 year old honey.

(snows past continued from page 1)

And when the day was done mom would give us a holler: "Suppers almost Ready", we'd grudgingly then march single file like penguins in a row to the back porch, pull off our wet boots and the bread bags, and then hang up our wet coats, gloves, and all our clothes behind the warm old coal stove in the living room so they would dry., We'd huddle up as close as we could to the fire as we tried to warm ourselves and sometimes we'd get too close and we'd hear an ouch .....and then a cry. And then to the table we would go for soup beans, mashed potatoes, and corn bread

or sweet cream made from snow. And if we were really lucky- a baked cake smothered in a glaze of beaten egg white icing and vanilla. What a spread? With our plates clean, our bellies full and our bodies warm- we'd settle in- on some cold nights we'd be piled on the couch under a warm cozy blanket, eating pop corn in front of the television watching *Godzilla*. Then -to bed we'd go.

On some nights we'd have so many quilts over us that we could barely turn over- shoot -we could barely breathe! But, we were warm, and when we awoke again we'd be ready for another fun day of snow; unless there was a cough or a sneeze! But those days are gone- sadly- like most of my playmates of yesterday. Many have died-lives snuffed out, others moved on to bigger towns and hopes for a better life but I choose to stay.



Through all the stages of life (from infancy to middle age with old age quickly approaching-I'm 53, my mind is 18, my body unfortunately is 97), which as you can imagine, causes

some strife. I'm now old! Through the seasons of many years of- warm springs, blazing hot summers and mild, colorful falls and snowy winters-cold. From sunrise to sunset, I have stayed. Yet; now another day is finished - smothered out like the grass under a deep heavy blanket of snow; like snow on a warm day; melted away. It has slowly vanished- for the dark of night has finally conquered the light of this day; the battle between life and death, good and evil, gladness and sorrow- fought and which continues unending for a short time tomorrow.

As I settle in and snuggle up I'm thankful; thankful for my childhood- we didn't have fancy such but we didn't need much, for my family and friends. For kind neighbors with big warm hearts and helping hands, for God's many blessings of which there is no end. I'm thankful for my mantle for there is where a little candle; burning- It's light shining great piercing , the cold darkness of this night, like a sword of love against hate; its soft warm light simply aglow, and for **JESUS**- whose blood can cleanse our sins though they be scarlet and make them white; as white as...  
.....**SNOW**. I'm thankful for this snowy day,

ALAS and for the time to look back on snows past.

Comments and Suggestions

Addressed TO;

What On Earth P O Box 81 Eagan TN. 37730

Email Woe.CCI@hotmail.com

Subscribe \$15.00 a year

Name-----

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## Obituaries

Our condolences go out to the family of

**Dianna Hamblin Malicoat** (61) of Clairfield August 16, 1954 to February 2, 2016

**Mr. J.B. Hatfield**, Age 81 of Clairfield, Tennessee passed away Saturday, February 20, 2016 at his home.

“Gone from our sight but never from our hearts”

### Public Meeting

A large group of folks gathered at the Clairfield Volunteer Fire Department Thursday 18th to discuss the loss of the Ambulance Service. County Commissioner, Jimmy Hatmaker explained how the ambulance service started and how it has worked up until the point it was taken from Clairfield. He informed us we were one of six throughout the county with us being the only one losing our ambulance. He did give us a couple of numbers to call and let them know we want it back. Give them a call and tell them, “We Want It Back”, if not for yourself for your neighbor who is fighting to get it back.

The Mayor Jack Daniels 423.626.5236

## Community Calendar

### COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

**Claiborne County:** 3rd Monday of the month in large courtroom located on Main Street in Tazewell at 6:30 p.m.

**Campbell County :** Regular Business meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month.

**CLEARFORK UTILITY BOARD MEETING** 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00p.m

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY:** meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Parent Resource Center.

**CLAIRFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:** meets on the 1st Monday of the month.

Medical Center 423.626.4211

The Tn Career Coach is coming to CCI .

March 31st more details later.

