

Kingsbury News & Information Newsletter - January 31, 2021

Kingsbury Newsletter <kingsburytexas@gmail.com> Reply-To: kingsburytexas@gmail.com To: Kingsbury <kingsburytexas@gmail.com>

Sun, Jan 31, 2021 at 9:36 AM

Kingsbury Texas

News & Information Newsletter



Dear Kingsbury,

Here's the latest on what's going on in Kingsbury!

Here Comes February!

The month of February starts on Monday this week.

The Roman month Februarius was named after the Latin term februum, which means purification, via the purification ritual Februa held on February 15 (full moon) in the old Iunar Roman calendar. January and February were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar, since the Romans originally considered winter a monthless period.

February Symbols



Its birth flower is the violet (Viola) and the common primrose (Primula vulgaris)



Its birthstone is the amethyst. It symbolizes piety, humility, spiritual wisdom, and sincerity.

Its zodiac signs are Aquarius (until February 19) and Pisces π (February 20 onwards).



The February skies are one of the few that are not blessed with meteor showers, but any cloudless night this month is a good time to bundle up and check out the diamonds in the sky. Maybe there will be the odd shooting star to make it special.

FEBRUARY LORE



There is always one fine week in February.



If bees get out in February, the next day will be windy and rainy.

Fogs in February mean frosts in May.

Winter's back breaks about the middle of February.

MONTHLY OBSERVANCES

National Fasting February National Enrolled Agents Month

National Self Check Month Free and Open Source Software Month

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American Heart Month Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month
An Affair to Remember Month Black History Month
Canned Food Month Creative Romance Month
Great American Pies Month National Bake for Family Fun Month
National Bird Feeding Month National Cherry Month
National Children's Dental Health Month National Grapefruit Month
National Heart Month National Hot Breakfast Month
National Library Lover's Month National Snack Food Month
National Weddings Month National Embroidery Month



Kingsbury Calendar

Do you have a meeting or public event that you want people to **know** about? Just let us know and we'll get it into the Kingsbury Newsletter and on the <u>Calendar</u> page of <u>kingsburytexas.org!</u>

Get in touch by replying to this email or by going to the Contact page on the Kingsbury website.

It's a great way to find out what's going on around town and to let others know what meetings or events you have planned that your friends and neighbors might like to attend.

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Γime zone: GMT	-06:00 ∨	<	February 2021	>		Today
Gun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4 I 7:30pm KFV	5	6
7 I 12:00pm Mar	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Valentine's Day I 12:00pm Mar	15 Presidents' Day I 6:30pm King	16	17	18	19	20
21 I 12:00pm Mar	22	23	24	25	26	27 Full Snow Moon Kingsbury Aer
28 I 12:00pm Mar	1	2	3	4 16:00pm KVF 17:30pm KFV	5	6

There's A Day For Everything

In case you didn't already know ... there's something every day to **celebrate!**Here are some of the fun, unusual, or forgotten holidays this week:

- January 31 National Backward Day, National Hot Chocolate Day, National Inspire Your Heart With Art Day
 - **February 1** National Baked Alaska Day, National Freedom Day (Freedom From Slavery), National Get Up Day, National Serpent Day, National Texas Day
- **February 2** National Heavenly Hash Day, National Tater Tot Day, National Groundhog Day
 - **February 3** National Carrot Cake Day, National Day the Music Died Day, National Missing Persons Day, National Women Physicians Day, National Girls and Women in Sports Day
- **February 4** National Create a Vacuum day, National Hemp Day, National Homemade Soup Day, National Thank a Mail Carrier Day, Optimist Day
- February 5 National Shower with a Friend Day, National Weatherperson's Day, World

 Nutella Day, National Wear Red Day, Bubble Gum Day
- **February 6** National Frozen Yogurt Day, National Lame Duck Day, National Chopsticks Day, Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, National Play Outside Day











Classics, Truck & Tractor Show

The 1st Annual Downtown Kingsbury Classics, Truck & Tractor Show will be happening

April 24th

Mark your calendars!



Kingsbury Volunteer Fire Department

Regular meetings of the Kingsbury Volunteer Fire Department are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 at KVFD Fire Station #1. The next is

Thursday, February 4th

Stop by to learn what you can do to help your **community** as a firefighter, a supporter, or as a first-responder.

The KVFD Auxiliary has their meetings on the first Thursday of most months starting in March. The next meeting of 2021 will be Thursday, March 4th and all meetings start at 6:00 p.m. in the Kingsbury VFD fire station. Come by and be a part of the awesome KVFD Auxiliary!



Market Days

The Market Days in downtown Kingsbury are currently on a hiatus during January.

They will **resume** on February 7th, the Sunday before Valentine's Day



With the nice weather though, there will certainly be some vendors setting up this Sunday! Come on down and check it out!



Kingsbury Weather

Kingsbury weather for this week. You can always get the latest **weather** in Kingsbury on the Kingsbury website under <u>Calendar</u>.



For current temperature, rainfall totals, wind speed, etc. just click on the bar at the bottom to go directly to the Baker Ranch weather station in Kingsbury. You can view local conditions and all the other weather stations in the TexMesonet network.



The Woman In Blue

This week in Texas history (wait, you'll see how it's connected to Texas!), on February 2nd, 1620, María Coronel took religious vows in a Franciscan order of nuns in Spain who wore an outer cloak of coarse blue cloth over the traditional brown habit. As a nun, now known as María de Jesús de Agreda, she had numerous mystic experiences (more than 500) in which she thought she visited a distant, unknown land. Franciscan authorities determined that the land was eastern New Mexico and far western Texas.

Sister María supposedly contacted several Indian cultures, including the Jumanos, and told the natives to seek instruction from the Spanish. Shortly thereafter, some fifty Jumano Indians appeared at the Franciscan convent of old Isleta, south of present Albuquerque, in July 1629 and said that they had been sent to find religious teachers. They already demonstrated rudimentary knowledge of Christianity, and when asked who had instructed them replied, "the Woman in Blue."

A subsequent expedition to the Jumanos, led by Fray Juan de Salas, encountered a large band of Indians in Southwest Texas. The Indians claimed that they had been advised by the Woman in Blue of approaching Christian missionaries. Subsequently, some 2,000 natives presented themselves for baptism and further religious instruction. Two years later, Fray Alonso de Benavides traveled to Spain, where he interviewed María de Jesús at Agreda. Sister María told of her bilocations and acknowledged that she was indeed the Lady in Blue.

After she died in 1665, her story was published in Spain. Although she said her last visitation to the New World was in 1631, the legend of her appearances was current until the 1690s. In the 1840s a mysterious woman in blue reportedly traveled the Sabine River valley aiding malaria victims, and her apparition was reported as recently as World War II.

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Groundhog Day

This Tuesday, February 2nd, is Groundhog Day!

According to tradition, if a groundhog comes out of its hole on this day and sees its shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather; no shadow means an early spring.

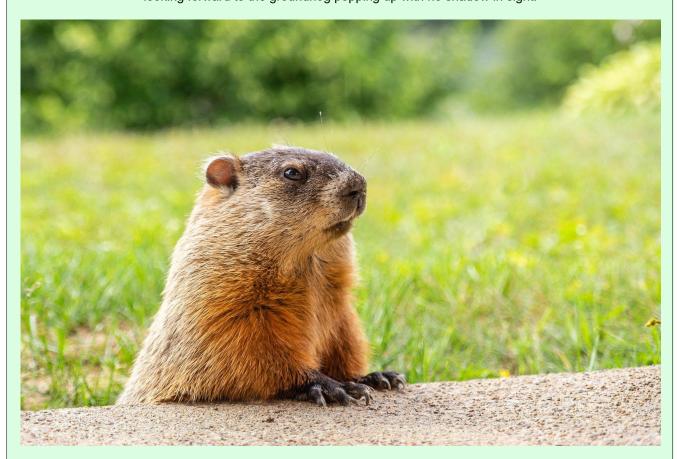
On February 2, 1887, Groundhog Day, featuring a **rodent** meteorologist, is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Clymer H. Freas was the editor of the local paper Punxsutawney Spirit at the time, and he began promoting the town's groundhog as the official "Groundhog Day meteorologist".

Groundhog Day has its roots in the ancient Christian tradition of Candlemas Day, when clergy would bless and distribute candles needed for winter. The candles represented how long and cold the winter would be. Germans expanded on this concept by selecting an animal—the hedgehog—as a means of predicting weather. Once they came to America, German settlers in Pennsylvania continued the tradition, although they switched from hedgehogs to groundhogs, which were plentiful in the Keystone State.

Just what the heck is a groundhog anyway? According to Wikipedia: "The groundhog (*Marmota monax*), also known as a woodchuck, or whistlepig, is a rodent of the family *Sciuridae*, belonging to the group of large ground squirrels known as marmots. The groundhog is also referred to as a chuck, wood-shock, groundpig, whistler, thickwood badger, Canada marmot, monax, moonack, weenusk, and red monk. The name "thickwood badger" was given in the Northwest to distinguish the animal from the prairie badger. Monax was an Indian name of the woodchuck, which meant "the digger". Young groundhogs may be called chucklings. Other marmots, such as the yellow-bellied and hoary marmots, live in rocky and mountainous areas, but the groundhog is a lowland

creature. It is widely distributed in North America and common in the northeastern and central United States and Canada. Groundhogs are found as far north as Alaska, with their habitat extending southeast to Georgia."

There you have it! Do you want 6 more weeks of winter? We haven't had much of one so far so I'm not sure it would make any difference. I'm sure that some of the people up north that are dealing with polar vortexes are looking forward to the groundhog popping up with no shadow in sight.



Maybe we should see if Kingsbury Kliff the Weather-Predicting Armadillo (that's a real thing I just made up) can give us some spring-like weather with a few more cold nights thrown in just to keep the bugs from taking over this summer! Check the Kingsbury website anytime for the local weather forecast - it's probably more reliable than a large rodent or a ... what *is* an armadillo anyway?



WWI Service Men From Kingsbury

While not large in numbers of population, Kingsbury's citizenry has always stepped up to help the local community, state needs, and for the defense of our country.

Pictured below are **WWI** Kingsbury service men in 1917 (L to R): Albert Coates, Earl Coates, Charlie Littlejohn, Otto Hagemen, Alex Jones, and John Coates. They are standing on Railway Street with "the tree in the street" to their right and the Kingsbury National Bank behind them across Kingsbury Street.

The buildings behind them are N. G. DeLany's Fancy Groceries and the "Headquarters For Echo Spring Whiskey". Fancy groceries and whiskey - what else could a military man from Kingsbury ask for?!



Know someone that should be on the Kingsbury Newsletter eMail List?

Send them this email! All they need to do is go to the Kingsbury website, click on the weird little dog at the bottom of any page, and fill out their name and email address. It's so easy! Let's get everybody to be "in the know" about what's going on in their community.



Thanks! Kingsbury News & Information

For more information any time
Visit our website - www.kingsburytexas.org
Visit us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/KingsburyTexas

Check out the Kingsbury Calendar & Weather



Check out previous News & Information Newsletters









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