

February- think sweet surprises, love and kindness. For the shortest month of the calendar year, it is jammed with days of importance; Super Bowl, Presidents' Day, Black History Month, Mardi Gras, American Heart Health Month, Random Acts of Kindness Day, and of course Valentine's Day.

Many of us will receive a gift of chocolate on February 14th. Chocolate dates back to the 16th century when the Europeans took cacao beans back to their shores from South America. Early chocolate was bitter, so the Europeans used readily available mint to improve the flavor, and so begins the pairing of chocolate -mint flavoring. Chocolate Mint ice cream was invented by a culinary arts student, Marilyn Ricketts, 1973. It was so popular that royals, Princess Anne and Mark Phillips, served it at their wedding. Now if it is good enough to be served to royalty, certainly you will want to attend the **CWGA Winter Luncheon on February 19, 2026** to celebrate National Chocolate Mint Day. To entice you, Butteville Store will be serving Mint Chocolate Chip ice cream. Jordan and Kathy not only make their own homemade ice cream, but they make their own chocolate chips. Should we have our dessert first that day? This is the second of our winter luncheons. We will meet in the **CCC Dining Room at 11:30 AM**. The sign-up notebook will be on the Pro Shop counter beginning February 2, with the **deadline to sign up, February 16, 2026, 11:30 AM**. Cost of the luncheon is \$25.00.

As members you are well aware that there is a line on our applications asking for you to consider donating to the Scholarship Fund. If you donated, you made a difference in five people's lives. On December 27, 2025, Financial Awards were given to: **Avree Doney, Max Ellerton, Danica Harrison, Kaydence Meikle, McKenna Rump**. Our three golf organizations: Charbonneau Men's Club, Charbonneau Women's Golf Association, Charbonneau Niners and the Charbonneau Country Club's Community Foundation collected \$6,009 to be distributed to these remarkable students who also happen to be employees of Charbonneau Golf Club. As you see these smiling young faces and hear them speak of their aspirations, know that your dollars are being well spent. Their goals include a major in Nursing, Sports Marketing, Business/Marketing, Film and TV Vocal Performance and Psychology. Their futures look bright, and our various clubs should be proud we have invested in our youth and not only their futures, but ours as well.

Tuesday and Thursday Winter Golf has allowed the hardy to golf through wind, rain, sleet and other adverse weather conditions. There have been 64 CWGA members who signed up for playing, and on average there have been 12- 24 "Winter Warriors" who have been willing to get out there keeping their swing tuned-up for the spring golf that will soon be here.

February 17th is Random Acts of Kindness. Surprise someone with a spontaneous, unplanned good deed ranging from small gestures, like smiling at a stranger, holding a door open for someone, let someone go ahead of you in a line; all designed to spread positivity and improve well-being by a simple

act of kindness. As stated by Dr. Suess in *The Grinch*, “*To Kindness and Love, the things we need the most!*” May your month be sweet!!