



### Notable Quotable

“Earth has no sorrow that earth cannot heal.”

~ John Muir,  
American Writer  
and Poet

“After I’m dead,  
I’d rather have  
people ask why  
I have no  
monument than  
why I have  
one.”

-- Cato The Elder  
(234 – 149 BC)

## June Birthdays

Waterford residents are the cream of the crop. And this month is no exception. One of our lovelies will celebrate her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on June 19<sup>th</sup>! Happy Birthday to you all, and blessings for the year!

John M – June 1  
Natalie K – June 3  
Ruth S – June 8  
Verla B – June 10  
Corinne M – June 15  
Marcella H – June 19  
Maria D – June 20

### Chasing The Storm

“You people are CRAZY!” she shouts from the rear seat of the beautiful scarlet pickup truck. Winds buffet the vehicle as it races through the “suck zone” of the F5 tornado.

This scene is from the hit movie “Twister,” released in 1994, about an intrepid group of scientists and their attempts to increase the warning times for tornados. The team depicted in the movie are known as storm chasers. They really exist, and their reasons for following storms can be as varied as they themselves are.

Wikipedia defines “storm chasing” as “The deliberate pursuit of severe weather phenomenon for curiosity, adventure, science investigation or news coverage.” Some folks chase storms as a career – a weatherperson getting the story – or as a hobby.

Tornados are the usual storms that are chased, but any “severe weather phenomenon,” such as a hurricane or a heavy thunderstorm can also fit the bill. And though most people will immediately run for cover when sirens announce a funnel cloud, storm chasers will often leap into their vehicle and drive into the nastiness of the storm.

Whether it’s the rush of adrenalin, or the surprise at how incredibly

powerful a storm is, chasers are one of the reasons scientists know what they know about these beasts of creation.

Hurricanes may seem to be predictable, moving at a stately pace, but they can still surprise us. A few years ago, a hurricane stopped moving – and just dumped rain and hail, causing massive flooding everywhere it hit. And that unpredictability can get a chaser’s attention as quickly as a lover’s gentle kiss.

Chasers will rush into a storm armed with as little as a cellphone, or a video camera in a personal car. They may head out with as much equipment as they can stuff into a university van. Either way, their hope is to forecast where a severe storm – especially a tornado – will hit, thus giving victims minutes to get to a safe place, instead of seconds.

And in case you’re wondering, yes, Oregon gets an average of three tornados per year. Portland and Eugene have had them in the past few years. In fact, in 2015 Eugene hosted an F1 twister at Lane Community College. It damaged four cars, turning two of them over, and lifting one with two people inside. That vehicle was then tossed onto another car.

Chasers may indeed be crazy, but then, so are the storms they chase.



Morgan Freeman – June 1, 1937  
Maya Moore – June 11, 1989  
Anne Frank – June 12, 1929  
Venus Williams – June 17, 1980  
Zoe Saldana – June 19, 1978  
Lionel Richie – June 20, 1949  
Pearl S. Buck – June 26, 1892  
Helen Keller – June 27, 1880  
Lena Horne – June 30, 1917

# Waterford Grand

June 2023

Celebrating  
June

Men’s Health  
Month

Perennial  
Gardening  
Month

Go Barefoot Day  
June 1

World Bicycle  
Day  
June 3

D-Day  
June 6

Flag Week (U.S.)  
June 11–17

Worldwide Day  
of Giving  
June 15

Father’s Day  
June 18

Great American  
Backyard  
Campout  
June 24

Social Media Day  
June 30

600 Waterford Way | Eugene, Oregon 97401 |  
541-636-3329 | Cascade Living Group

## She Calls Him “Bob”



Fame touches us in significant ways. We find ourselves on-stage, opening shows for household names, or a part of history that we never planned for. Fame visits, and we are changed for the better.

Such a thing happened to Waterford Grand resident Carole Hillabrant. She was in the Eugene Hotel. Her husband, Paul Wexler, was a seasoned character actor. He was cast in a movie that filmed using areas around Lane County.

“The Way West” starred Kirk Douglas, Robert Mitchum and Richard Widmark, three huge names in movies at the time.

The year was 1967. Carole and her 11-year-old son, Alan Wexler, were hired as extras.

“I think they hired Alan because he looked scruffy,” she says. “He had been in a recent production of ‘Oliver.’ He looked like a pioneer boy. I’ve found him in the movie four or five times.” She pauses, then continues. “I have never yet found myself,” she says, smiling. “Maybe I’m on the cutting room floor?”

Extras are used to make crowds appear larger. Carole was hired as a pioneer on a covered wagon, and also on foot, slogging her way to the Promised land of “Ory-gone” on the Oregon Trail. Extras are the unknown actors in every scene. In this movie, they played parts such as wagon drovers, buffalo hunters, and even Indians along the trail.

The movie crew spent a couple of months filming in areas around Eugene, Bend, and Christmas Valley, Oregon. In fact, the river that the wagons cross in the beginning of the film is the McKenzie River.

Carole tells of making a friend of one of the animal actors, a horse named Peaches.

“One of the wranglers was having a bit of trouble with another horse, and I happened to be standing close by,” she remembers. “He handed me the reins, and said, ‘Hold him ‘til I get back.’ Peaches turned out to be a nice horse.”

When the wrangler returned a few minutes later, Carole and Peaches were standing, his head on her shoulder, the best of buddies.

“I eventually rode him in a few scenes when they realized that I could keep him calm,” she says.

Animals bring difficulties to a movie set. Carole tells of a night scene, at Fort Hood, when a wagon caught fire. It spooked the horses pulling the wagon, and they bolted, hell-bent for leather.

“I looked up and saw that Alan and another boy were directly in the way of the panicked team – and I couldn’t do anything!” Kirk Douglas’ double was also the head wrangler. He saw the boys’ plight from the saddle of another horse and made a beeline for them.

He grabbed them and tossed them clear.

“He saved my boy,” she says, misty-eyed.

Carole remembers that two of the stars were “easy to share space with.”

“Richard Widmark was a quiet man, a class act,” she says.

But Robert Mitchum was clearly her favorite. She says he could be seen often, pausing to talk with extras, and adoring fans. He strolled the set without a shirt (it WAS hot, after all), his skin oiled, tanned.

“A VERY handsome man,” she says.

“Bob Mitchum was the nicest man on the set,” she says with a wistful smile.

We hear stories like this occasionally, and we’re impressed. But to know a famous actor well enough to call him Bob? That is rare, indeed!





Adolph Hitler was known for many things – mostly the general ugliness of World War Two. But he did one good thing – designed the VW Beetle, known also as the Bug...

## The People’s Car

June 22 is Worldwide VW Beetle Day. It has been one of the world’s most recognizable and beloved automobiles for decades. It’s a fun design that appeals to people of all ages—a small compact car with an innovative curved roof that makes it both aerodynamic and cute. The Beetle was designed by German Chancellor, Adolph Hitler, in the mid ‘30s to give his people a vehicle they could afford. They found it to be useful for much more than just fun. It was affordable, and with its trunk in the front, it was practical, and very reliable. Volkswagen means the “people’s car,” in German, and these cars were intended to be easy on the wallet for all, costing just 31 weeks’ worth of pay. Vintage Beetles sported an air-cooled rear

engine, which meant they did not need expensive cooling units and could reliably operate in both heat and cold. The cars also got excellent gas mileage, more than 30 miles per gallon at a time when gasoline was not so plentiful and expensive. The simple engine and parts were easy to replace and inexpensive to repair and maintain. All these reasons made the VW Beetle the world’s best-selling car for decades. The original Beetle was built for 65 straight years! In high school, most of us found another reason that Beetles were fun – they could be stuffed full of teenagers for a record – my school fit 19. They were also light enough that four or five football players could move them. Just pick them up and haul them away. Fun times, huh?

## June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944: The D-Day Invasion

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944, the war took a decisive direction when Allied forces launched the massive Normandy attack. Though the operation initially suffered from disorganization, confusion, and incomplete plans, the Allies DID achieve what they set out to do – invade Europe and shorten the war.

This June 6<sup>th</sup> will be the seventy-ninth anniversary of that massive undertaking that cost many lives – on both sides

of those beaches. It also celebrates one of the first uses of paratroops in such a massive operation. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne and the 101<sup>st</sup> – the Green Berets – and paratroopers from Canada and Great Britain were dropped in the night before.

It’s been seventy-nine years, and because of the work of those soldiers and airmen, we still breathe easy. Thank God for those guys! Many are gone now, but we still thank them.



On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944, the Allies hit the beaches at Normandy, France in one of the largest military operations in world history.



The first Father’s Day – in 1909 - honored dads by the wearing of a red or white rose on the lapel.



Eeyore – the saddest of the Sad. Loves sad songs

Question: Just how fast is “greased lightning?”

Lightning travels at an average speed of 1.5 x 10 to the 5<sup>th</sup> power, or 335,000 miles per hour. Greased lightning is, of course, considerably faster. Encyclopedia Britannica

## Father’s Day Rose

Father’s Day is a very different holiday for me these days. June 18<sup>th</sup> is a day we in the United States set aside everything but time with Dad. But...it’s different now. Dad is no longer at the end of a phone line. He – and Mom – are a long dimension away where phone lines can’t reach. I miss them, but I still want to honor their lives. Father’s Day in

America was proposed by Sonora Louise Smart Dodd in 1909, to honor her father, a Civil War veteran and widowed single dad. On the first Father’s Day, she suggested that fathers be honored with a rose—red for those still living, and white worn for those who had passed. I’m blest, then. Dad’s favorite flower was the rose, and Mom’s too. So, when you see a rose on my hat, then you’ll know...

## The Saddest Songs in Country Music

Country music has often been considered the “Music of The Common Man,” and I suppose that it’s true. But those who write the songs for us commoners often have a strange sense of humor – and a sadness that comes out in their lyrics a lot like those who imbibe in their tunes. Here are some song titles that you may not have heard of, but they are valid sad country songs...

“I Gave her My Heart and a Diamond, and she Clubbed me with a Spade.”

“You Done Stomped on My Heart (And You Mashed That Sucker Flat)”

“It’s Hard to Kiss the Lips at Night that have been Chewin’ your A\*\* All Day Long.”

“I’d Rather Pass a Kidney Stone than Another Night with You.”

“Did I Shave My Legs for This?”

“If My Nose was full of Nickels, I’d blow it All on You.”

“If You Cain’t Live Without Me, Why Aren’t you Dead?”

“I Gave her a Ring, and she gave me the Finger.”

“If I said You Had a Beautiful Body, Would You Hold it Against me?”

“You’re the Ring Around My Bathtub and The Hangnail in My Life”

“I Want a Beer as Cold as My Wife’s Heart”

“One Day When You Swing That Skillet (My Face Won’t Be There)”

I Wouldn’t Take Her to A Dawg Fight, Cause I’m Afraid She’d Win!”

“I Bought the Shoes That Just Walked Out on Me.”

He’s Got A Way With Women...and He Just Got Away With Mine.”







**Waterford Grand Management Team**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| ❖ Tonya Hodges         | Executive Director                             |
| ❖ McKenzie Windhaus    | Assistant Executive Director                   |
| ❖ Kati Walston         | Business Office Manager                        |
| ❖ Dorian Arcuri        | Community Outreach Director                    |
| ❖ Denise Bradbury      | Dining Services Director                       |
| ❖ Mindy Maddy          | Dining Room Manager                            |
| ❖ Don Bitle            | Recreation and Wellness Director               |
| ❖ Terri Kelly          | Personal Preferences / Life Enrichment Manager |
| ❖ Misty Valet          | Resident Services Director                     |
| ❖ Ashleigh Villafane   | Associate Wellness Director                    |
| ❖ Dana Lamie           | Resident Services Director                     |
| ❖ Tracy-Rene Eckertson | Wellness Director                              |
| ❖ Jennifer Calicott    | Wellness Director                              |
| ❖ Misty Valet          | Resident Services Director                     |
| ❖ Duane Dreher         | Building Services Director                     |
| ❖ Julie Nedele         | Life Enrichment Director                       |



**Go  
Beth  
!!!**

**OUR JUNE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH  
BETHANI SIRIA**

Our congratulations go to Beth Siria from the Dining Services / Kitchen department. Beth has been with the Waterford Grand since August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and has worked full time as one of our most dependable bakery/cook associates. She is a committed employee, and we want to thank her for her dedication to our valued residents at Waterford Grand.

This is Beth’s second time to receive our Employee of the Month award. The first one was back in September 2018. She helps keep things running efficiently and is known for her talents in making delicious dessert for the residents and staff. She is much appreciated.

Thank you, Beth, and we appreciate your hard work all these years.

Submitted by Don Bitle