

Many myths surround Valentine’s Day

A day to acknowledge our appreciation and love for family and friends

By Ron Jacobs
Contributor

Valentine’s Day, February 14, the day we immediately associate with cards, candy and flowers.

There are many myths and legends associated with the day. The one thing historians agree on is that it was first observed as a Christian feast day to honor the martyr, St. Valentine.

As far as can be determined, Valentine cards began as early as the 1500s. Commercial Valentines appeared in the U.S. by the mid 1860s. By the 1900s, printed cards began to replace written letters.

Esther Howland began selling the first mass-produced Valentine cards. She is referred to as the “Mother of American Valentines”.

Here is some interesting information connected to Valentines. There are four towns in the United States named Valentine. They are located in Texas, Arizona, Nebraska, and Virginia.

The heart-shaped chocolate candy box was introduced

in the 1860s by the Cadbury Chocolate Company to encourage sales. Message Valentine candy was introduced in 1866 by a company that made medical lozenges, and they now produce eight billion pieces each year. Over 250 million roses are grown for Valentine’s Day each year.

In Roman mythology, Cupid was the god of love. In Greek mythology, the god of love was Eros.

Cupid used his golden arrow to spread love and to interfere with the emotions of the gods and man.

Love birds are real and they mate for life. Red roses are the traditional symbol of love. XOXO means hugs and kisses. X was used when people signed an X for their name. The O represents the shape of a hugging embrace.

The Hershey Company makes 80 million chocolate “Kisses” daily. Lace was used on candy boxes on Valentine’s Day because the word lace comes from the Latin word ‘snare’ so you could ensnare someone’s heart.

We have all heard the

phrase “wearing their heart on one’s sleeve”, which actually means to openly show emotion. This refers to a knight who wore a scarf or ribbon on his sleeve to indicate the lady the knight favored.

According to Hallmark Cards, more than 145 million Valentine cards are sent each year. Valentine’s Day is the second largest selling holiday card after Christmas cards.

Today, Valentine’s cards have extended to include family and friends and school children.

Nostalgic note: Remember in elementary school each classroom had a decorated Valentine box. The box was colorfully decorated with a

Valentine motif with a slit in the top to receive Valentine cards.

When the box was opened and the cards distributed, it was normal to count the number of cards received. The cards were taken home.

What was so important for a very short time became of little importance almost immediately. As a general rule, teachers receive more Valentine cards than any other person.

Valentine’s Day has evolved into a day when we can acknowledge our appreciation and love for our family and friends. We all agree it is greatly appreciated to be remembered.



Photo Provided
A typical Valentine from 1940-1960.

Public Notice

TOWN OF THACKERVILLE 2026 APPROVED HOLIDAYS

DAY	DATE
NEW YEARS DAY	THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR	MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026
PRESIDENTS DAY	MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026
GOOD FRIDAY	FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026
MEMORIAL DAY	MONDAY, MAY 25, 2026
JUNETEENTH	FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026
INDEPENDENCE DAY	FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026
LABOR DAY	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026
COLUMBUS DAY	MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026
VETERAN'S DAY	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026
THANKSGIVING DAY	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2026
DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2026
HOLIDAY CLOSING	MON-WED, DECEMBER 21-23, 2026
CHRISTMAS EVE	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2026
CHRISTMAS DAY	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2026
HOLIDAY CLOSINGS	MON-WED, DECEMBER 28-30, 2026
NEW YEAR'S EVE	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2026
HOLIDAY CLOSING	FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2027
EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAY	TO BE OBSERVED ON EMPLOYEE'S BIRTHDAY

Approved this 12th day of January, 2026.

THACKERVILLE TOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES
/s/ Amanda Teran
Mayor

ATTEST:

(seal)

/s/ Karen Blakey
Karen Blakey, Town Clerk

Published in the Marietta Monitor on February 13, 2026.

Public Notice

TOWN OF THACKERVILLE 2026 MUNICIPAL COURT SCHEDULE-REVISED 3RD WEDNESDAY @ 3:30 PM

WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 21
WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 18
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 25
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 15
WEDNESDAY	MAY 20
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 17
WEDNESDAY	JULY 15
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 19
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 16
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 21
WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 18
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 16

Approved this 9th day of February, 2026

THACKERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
/s/ Amanda Teran
Amanda Teran, Mayor

ATTEST:

(seal)

/s/ Karen Blakey
Karen Blakey, Town Clerk

Published in the Marietta Monitor on February 13, 2026.

Public Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR LOVE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estate of:
PEGGY MARIE STAFFORD, a/k/a PEGGY Case No. PB-2026-6
MARIE AUTRY, deceased

COMBINED NOTICE TO CREDITORS, NOTICE OF PETITION FOR SUMMARY ADMINISTRATION, NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNTING, AND PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, DISTRIBUTION AND DISCHARGE

NOTICE is hereby given to all creditors of, and all other interested persons in the Estate of PEGGY MARIE STAFFORD, a/k/a PEGGY MARIE AUTRY, deceased, (“Decedent”) that GLENDA VASSAR has filed herein her Petition for Summary Administration, Appointment of Special Administrators, Final Accounting, Determination of Heirship, Distribution and Discharge, and pursuant to Title 58 Okla. St. §246 the following information is provided:

- Name of Decedent: Peggy Marie Stafford, a/k/a Peggy Marie Autry
Date of Death: March 27, 2013
Address: Norman, Oklahoma
- Name of Petitioner: Glenda Vassar
3903 Green Hills Court
Norman, OK 73072
- At the time of PEGGY MARIE STAFFORD, a/k/a PEGGY MARIE AUTRY’S death, she resided in the State of Oklahoma.
- A document purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of PEGGY MARIE STAFFORD, a/k/a PEGGY MARIE AUTRY has been attached to the Petition.
- The Petition sets forth the names and addresses of all known creditors, heirs, and devisees of the Decedent.
- The total probable value of the Estate shall not be of an aggregate value in excess of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00).
- A hearing will be held on the Petition for Summary Administration, Appointment of Special Administrator, Final Accounting, and Petition for Determination of Heirship, Distribution, and Discharge on the **19th day of March 2026, at 9:00 o’clock a.m.** before the Honorable Todd Hicks, in his courtroom at the Love County Courthouse located at 405 West Main Street, Marietta, Love County, Oklahoma 73448.
- Any person receiving this notice or otherwise interested in the Estate must file objections to the Petition prior to the hearing and send a copy to the Petitioner, Glenda Vassar, c/o Republic Law Group, 7 East Main Street, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401, or that person will be deemed to have waived any objections to the Petition.
- If an objection filed prior to the hearing, the Court will determine at the hearing whether summary proceedings are appropriate and, if so, whether the Estate will be distributed and to whom the Estate will be distributed, and the claim of any creditor not shown in the Petition will be barred unless the claim is presented to the Special Administrator on or before a date certain at least thirty (30) days following the filing of the Combined Notice.
- All creditors having claims against PEGGY MARIE STAFFORD, a/k/a PEGGY MARIE AUTRY, deceased, are required to present the same, with a description of all security interests and other collateral, if any, held by each creditor with respect to such claim, to the undersigned Special Administrator, c/o Republic Law Group, 7 East Main Street, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401, on or before the following presentment date: **March 13, 2026**, or the same will forever be barred.

/s/ Natalie Swink-Smith
Justin R. Landgraf, OBA #22204
Natalie Swink-Smith, OBA #35751
Republic Law Group
7 East Main Street
Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401
(580) 226-6277 Telephone
(580) 319-7215 Fax
justin@republiclawgroup.com
natalie@republiclawgroup.com
Attorneys for Administrator

Published in the Marietta Monitor on February 13 and 20, 2026.

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Public Notice

TOWN OF THACKERVILLE 2026 REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETINGS

As required by Section 311, Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes, notice is hereby given that the **TOWN OF THACKERVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETINGS during calendar year 2026, are as follows:

THE 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH UNLESS A HOLIDAY (Meetings marked with * are Wednesdays)

DATE	TIME	PLACE OF MEETING
01/12/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
02/09/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
03/09/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
04/13/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
05/11/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
06/08/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
07/13/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
08/10/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
09/14/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
*10/14/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
11/09/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL
12/14/2026	6:00 P.M.	THACKERVILLE TOWN HALL

Approved this 12th day of January, 2026

THACKERVILLE TOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES
/s/ Amanda Teran
Mayor

ATTEST:

(seal)

/s/ Karen Blakey
Karen Blakey, Town Clerk

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Public Notice

2025 LOVE COUNTY EMPLOYEE SALARIES

Date Range: 01/01/2025 To 12/31/2025

*CARLILE, BRICE	\$ 961.00	*CLARK, WAYNE	\$ 13,814.20	*DELASHAW, CORLYSS A.	\$ 210.00
*GARCIA, MARIA G.	\$ 5,400.00	*RICHEY, RITA G.	\$ 7,648.10	ADAMS, ERIC	\$ 39,353.61
AKERS, CARY	\$ 41,100.00	ANDERSON, BRIANNA M.	\$ 26,512.48	ANDY CUMBERLEDGE	\$ 65,520.96
AULD, W A	\$ 48,406.00	AUST, DELANEY	\$ 520.00	BARRICK, TRENTON	\$ 43,387.92
BESHIRS, ABIGAIL N.	\$ 13,734.79	BESHIRS, DAKOTA	\$ 40,600.00	BILLY, SILVIA	\$ 39,768.00
BOWLES, DAWN	\$ 39,624.00	BOYD, CRYSTAL N.	\$ 43,887.92	BROOKS, CACHE L.	\$ 2,313.75
BURGESS, TREVER	\$ 5,390.00	BURTON, CUTTER	\$ 23,004.36	CAMPBELL, GARY	\$ 40,268.72
CHAVARRIA, KIMBERLY	\$ 44,538.00	CLARK, BRADLEY S.	\$ 41,100.00	CLARK, DAJAREA N.	\$ 36,547.66
COOP, JOSH D.	\$ 22,998.42	CROWDER, AMANDA	\$ 39,768.00	CUMBERLEDGE, SHELLY	\$ 36,624.32
DANIEL, TRENT D.	\$ 44,551.32	EVANS, CARROLL D.	\$ 31,378.14	EVANS, PRESTON	\$ 5,177.81
FINCHER, MIRANDA	\$ 43,887.92	FLATT, CARROLL	\$ 40,018.72	FLATT, DANNY K.	\$ 42,849.92
FOX, MICHELLE	\$ 42,173.36	FRAZIER, KEVIN L.	\$ 40,690.36	FRODSHAM, COLTEN	\$ 6,728.76
GAGE, PAUL DAVID	\$ 297.50	GILLHAM, AMANDA	\$ 41,108.00	HARRIS, NOAH	\$ 39,179.50
HAWKINS, HAILEE	\$ 40,018.72	HAYES, WHITNEY T.	\$ 26,512.00	HEARELL, DAVID	\$ 25,977.50
HILL, EDWARD E.	\$ 37,892.12	HOLLAND, DARRELL G.	\$ 23,416.36	HOLLAND, WENDY L.	\$ 63,120.96
HOLLAR, SHELBI	\$ 40,018.00	HOLT, JULIE KAREN	\$ 44,538.00	HOLT, SYDNEY C.	\$ 140.00
HOOD, TRUMAN	\$ 40,850.00	HULL, LORRI J.	\$ 23,252.16	HUNTINGTON, JOHN	\$ 3,736.25
JACOBS, DAVID	\$ 40,268.72	JONES, CATHERINE M.	\$ 14,481.41	KINCADE, SEBASTIAN	\$ 20,622.34
KIRK, JACK H.	\$ 44,137.92	LAWLEY, REED F.	\$ 37,892.12	LEHMAN, RAYMOND C.	\$ 40,268.72
LINCOLN, CARISMA	\$ 26,669.50	LONGEST, HEATHER DA	\$ 25,949.00	MAGEE, DAVID	\$ 65,520.96
MATHIS, TERRY	\$ 39,768.72	MAYES, MICHAEL O.	\$ 65,520.96	MC FARLAND, JESSIE L.	\$ 40,268.72
MCMILLAN, CHAD	\$ 44,137.92	MEADOR, JUSTIN	\$ 3,037.50	MOISER, CHELSEA	\$ 15,952.00
MORGAN, ROBERTA	\$ 425.00	MORGAN, ROBERTA L.	\$ 2,400.00	MURPHY, KRISTAN	\$ 4,423.37
NICHOLS, KATHRYN	\$ 41,100.00	NORRIS, JENNIFER	\$ 4,956.88	OGLE, BAILEY S.	\$ 21,199.25
PINO, JASON	\$ 40,600.00	POWELL, TAYLOR	\$ 35,332.37	PROCTOR, STEPHANIE	\$ 16,550.61
RAMIREZ, VALENTE	\$ 17,096.76	REDMON, EDITH M.	\$ 44,637.92	RENICK, TINA	\$ 41,708.00
RIECK, BRYAN	\$ 40,923.64	RILEY, ASHLEY	\$ 43,887.92	ROBERTS, AUSTIN	\$ 6,628.12
ROBERTSON, LAURIE	\$ 40,018.72	RUSHING, JOHN STACY	\$ 65,520.96	RUSSELL, SHELLY KAYE	\$ 63,120.96
SALAZAR, RACHEL	\$ 42,078.32	SANCHEZ, IRMA	\$ 40,018.72	SANDS, JOHNNY	\$ 40,850.00
SCHMIDT, JAMES	\$ 108.75	SEWELL, NIGEL MAXWEL	\$ 40,850.00	SMITH, KARLA M.	\$ 63,120.96
SPANHANKS, LINDSEY R.	\$ 40,505.11	SPEARS, EARL L.	\$ 40,268.72	SPROUSE, LANE	\$ 15,168.57
SPROUSE, ROBERT W.	\$ 39,655.06	STEPHENS, DAVID E.	\$ 42,328.32	STEWART, BARRY	\$ 44,137.92
STEWART, ROBERT H.	\$ 40,850.00	STINSON, KENNY	\$ 40,018.72	STONE, TROY A.	\$ 40,850.00
SWIRCZYNSKI, KYLE	\$ 9,080.48	TALIAFERRO, RICHARD L	\$ 450.00	TALIAFERRO, RICHARD L	\$ 2,100.00
TALIAFERRO, RICHARD	\$ 39,242.44	TAMEZ, JUAN A.	\$ 22,944.00	THOMPSON, PIKE	\$ 16,570.30
TIPTON, JASON M.	\$ 41,828.32	TUNNELL, MELISSA D.	\$ 64,320.96	VINE, TASHENA	\$ 41,950.00
WALKER, CYNTHIA	\$ 37,923.60	WALL, KENDRA RENEE	\$ 8,513.76	WASHINGTON, ROCHEL	\$ 2,925.00
WILHITE, DEBBIE	\$ 39,820.00	WILLIAMS, JENNY R.	\$ 43,387.92	WILLIAMS, SAMANTHA L.	\$ 36,081.13
WILLIS, JOSIE R.	\$ 17,073.63	WILSON, JIMMY BRYAN	\$ 40,268.72	WILSON, JULIANNA	\$ 16,158.60
WILSON, MEAGAN M.	\$ 44,880.00	WILSON, SHAUNTE	\$ 38,896.00	WINGO, RAEGN LAINE	\$ 12,276.26
WOLFE, CAROL J.	\$ 44,637.92	WRIGHT, ALIVIA B.	\$ 39,768.72	YOUNG, JACKSON	\$ 3,142.50

*Employee is employed Part-Time, or worked less than 12 months during the calendar year.

Published in the Marietta Monitor on February 13, 2026.

Wellspring Assembly of God

9021 Aztec Rd.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

You are never a stranger in your Father’s house.



We would love to worship with you at First United Methodist Church of Marietta

603 West Main Street, Marietta • 580-276-3210
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Worship at 11 a.m.
Chicken Foot: 3rd Thursday

Rev. Steve Davis

Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World