



From The Patch

The Weed Patch's Monthly Newsletter

February 2006

News from The Patch



New Product! That's one of our goals for 2006, and we're working hard to meet it. We've brought in candle chandeliers, linens, more food products, more cards and paper products, and lots (and lots!) of stars. Chicken and crow and apple items abound, and our Americana section is growing even as we speak. We're bulking up on our Willow Tree, and now have new pieces for 2006 out on the shelf. We've expanded our candle selection again, as well as our

furniture, lamps, and pottery. Our photos and signs selection has grown, too. We're bringing in product from local artists that is handmade, too. Have a suggestion or request? Be sure to let us know!

There's lots of changes here at Country Village that are very exciting. For one, Keepsake Cottage Fabrics is now right next door, in the Big Red Barn. The Red Shed is also moving, to where River Rock used to be. River Rock has moved to Kirkland, which is sad, but we're excited to see The Red Shed make this move.

In other Village news, Keepsake Cottage Fabrics will open in their new location by Wednesday, February 8th. They are now located right next door to The Weed Patch, in Country Pickins' old space. Art & Soul Gallery will be taking over Keepsake's old space, and Gallery Eclectic will be moving across the Village into the space the Northwest Heritage currently occupies. The Red Shed is moving in to the space directly across from us, where River Rock used to be. We're extremely excited to welcome our "new" neighbors!

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February 2006 Fat Tuesday Celebration!

On February 28, 2006 we are hosting a sale exclusively for our newsletter subscribers. We're only advertising this event through the February newsletter - but feel free to bring a friend with you. Come to the store from 6pm - 8pm and enjoy a 10% discount on everything in the store! See all our new products, meet some wonderful Patchers, and have a fantastic evening at the store. Enter your name to win an fantastic prize - last time we gave away a four foot green shelf... Be sure to mark your calendars for this one!

Rainy Wednesdays Reminder

If you're sick and tired of all the rain we've been getting, we can brighten your Wednesdays! If it's raining, and it's Wednesday, come in to the store and see what's 20% off! Each Wednesday it will be different, and you have to come in to find out what's on sale. Recently, it has been Pelican Bay Dip Mixes, Cake Candles, our Wooden-ware (plates and bowls), and all glass items. Don't miss a Wednesday when it's raining!

Recipe: Red Velvet Cake By Elaine Williams

Cake Ingredients

- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. butter extract
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 tbsp. cocoa
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 2 oz. red food coloring

Cake Directions:

Cream butter and sugar; add eggs, one at a time. Beat in extract; add flour, cocoa and milk alternately. Stir in soda, vinegar and coloring. Place in 3 layer pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes.

Icing Directions:

Cook milk and flour until thick; cool. Beat sugar until fluffy; add cooked mixture. Beat until very light; stir in vanilla.

Icing Ingredients

- 1 cup milk
- 3 tbsp. flour
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Store Hours

M - Sat: 10am - 6pm
Sun: 11am - 5pm

The Weed Patch Helping Make Your House a Home

Country Village
814 238th St SE, Suite A
Bothell, WA 98021
(425) 481 - 5995

Product Spotlight : Willow Tree - "Love"

With Valentine's Day right around the corner, it's time to start thinking about ways to show your love to that special someone in your life. Our expanded Willow Tree Collection has several wonderful pieces to help you say "I Love You" and "You're Special" to those close to you. Come in any Thursday before Valentine's Day, and purchase select pieces for 10% off.



What's up with the Newsletter?

Here at The Weed Patch we're VERY excited to announce a new format, in partnership with Country Village, for our newsletter. Each month, The Weed Patch will send out a newsletter very similar to this current issue. It will usually be a single page and coupons, and will still have wonderful recipes, fun craft projects, helpful tips, and interesting articles.

Then, each quarter (starting with 2nd Quarter - April, May, and June) we will send out a beefed up newsletter in the form of a mini magazine. This quarterly newsletter will continue to feature the content you've come to expect from our newsletters, but will additionally have information on the other shops in Country Village. We will feature a quarterly event calendar, coupons for the other shops, and a wider variety of recipes, projects, and information.

A Little Valentine Trivia

By Janene Tindall

Much history and legend surrounds the subject of the history of St. Valentine. One particular source* states that St. Valentine was a Roman priest who assisted martyrs under the persecution of Claudius II. Valentine was arrested and sent to the Prefect of Rome, who tried to force Valentine to renounce his Christian faith. After his repeated attempts failed, the Prefect ordered him beaten with clubs, and then beheaded on February 14th, about 270AD. His association with the celebration of love came purely by accident.

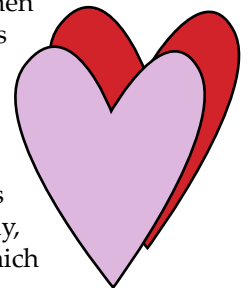
Romans celebrated a spring festival on February 15th called Lupercalia, which involved certain fertility rites and particularly concerned the youth. When Rome invaded Britain, they introduced their religious festivals and customs to the region. Later, when early Christians were getting rid of pagan superstitions and dates by substituting them with those of Christian beliefs, Valentine, having suffered on the eve of Lupercalia, was now remembered in association with the

Lupercalia festival, celebrating the return of spring when "thoughts of love return to a young man's fancy and birds begin to mate (Staff, p12)." Certain rites of Lupercalia were celebrated on that day, and the two became so melded together that no one knows which originated from Lupercalia and which didn't.

Legend also says that St. Valentine was a Roman priest, who was executed in Rome on February 14th. The story says that believing all men should be soldiers in his army, and not kept at home with a wife, Emperor Claudius had outlawed marriage. Ignoring this command, the sympathetic Valentine performed secret marriages for young lovers. His treason was discovered, and Valentine was arrested and thrown in jail. While in prison, he was said to have befriended the jailor's daughter, and passed the time writing. On the day of his execution, he supposedly wrote a tender letter to the jailor's daughter and signed it "Your Valentine," which is what is now considered to be the origin of the present day custom.

So far, I am not aware of any historical references that back this particular story, but it is nonetheless a nice tale to tell and to dream of. Some honor St. Valentine's Day as a celebration of love and friendship, while others avoid it like the plague, believing it to be a corny Hallmark-driven scheme to make money. While it is true that every day should be the day we express our affection and appreciation to our loved ones, it is also nice to have a time set aside every year to splurge, to indulge, to celebrate with millions of others the joy of love and friendship, to remind ourselves of how important our relationships are to us, and to express that to our loved ones. Let your friend, spouse, sister, mailman, or whoever know you care!

*The Valentine & its Origins, Frank Staff. Frederich A Praeger, Inc. Publishers, 1969



**Come visit the store and see all the new product for 2006!
We're bringing in more products for you, our customers, every day**