

# VINTAGE TIMES



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## Joe Louis: A Humbled Hero

By:

Doug Junker

In the annals of boxing history few heavyweights have garnered the respect that has been given to Joe Louis. As a boxer, Louis was known for his quick hands, slick footwork, killer-instinct, and his notoriously hard punches. When he fought James J. Braddock for the title in 1937, he would knock Braddock out with an 8<sup>th</sup> round punch that forced Braddock's teeth through his mouthpiece (and lip) and render him unconscious for several minutes. Louis went on to own the title for nearly 12 years and would successfully defend it 25 times. By any physical measure, Joe Louis was a great champion; but by any human measure, he might have been an even better person.

From the very beginning of his professional career, Joe Louis would fight against racial prejudice. Jack Johnson became the first black heavyweight champion in 1908. Johnson, known as the "Galveston Giant" was a huge figure, in and out of the ring. He dominated the heavyweight division for 7 years and caused waves within the heavily segregated American society. Johnson was intelligent, proud and, after winning the championship, completely ambiguous as to how his penchant for speaking his mind and spending time with white women (he married three of them) inflamed feelings of racial hatred. This hatred led to the search for a "Great White Hope" a white challenger up to the task of defeating him. In 1915, Jess Willard would knock out Jack Johnson, claim the title, and return the power to the promoters who, for the next 22 years, would deny black challengers a shot at the title.

The shadow of Jack Johnson was the anvil on which Joe Louis' career was forged. His managers, fearful of racial sentiment against their fighter, held Joe to a strict code of conduct that demanded he live a clean life, prohibited him from gloating over fallen opponents and forbade him from ever having his picture taken with a white woman. Joe Louis responded by subjugating his pride, demonstrating humility and exhibiting good sportsmanship in all matters. By the time he won the title in 1937, Louis had earned the respect of white America and with the advent of World War II, that respect would grow to boarder love.

Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he volunteered to fight a charity boxing match for the benefit of the Naval Relief Fund, the event raised \$47,000 for the cause. The next day he enlisted in the U.S. Army at Camp Upton, Long Island. A few months later he would fight another charity match, raising an additional \$36,000. In all, Joe Louis had responded to his nation's call by enlisting in the army and personally raising over \$90,000 for charities related to the war effort. The army took advantage of Joe's notoriety and, along with Sugar Ray Robinson, had him travel throughout the U.S. and Europe boosting the morale of the troops on the front lines and support for the war on the home front. He was also tasked with encouraging large numbers of black men to enlist.

During World War II the U.S. Army was fully segregated and racial prejudice and discrimination were dominate features of the armed forces. Joe's popularity did not insulate him from this racism. Once, Joe and Sugar Ray Robinson were waiting for a bus at an Alabama bus depot when a member of the military police ordered them to move to a bench in the back of the room. Louis refused, and the MP backed down. On other occasions Louis would use his influence to better

*Joe Louis: A Humbled Hero Cont.*

the causes of other black soldiers. Once, he helped facilitate applications into Officer Training School for a group of black soldiers whose entrance had been inexplicably delayed for months. One of these soldiers was none other than Jackie Robinson, who would later break baseball's color barrier. Joe was once asked about his decision to join the racially divided U.S. Army, he famously responded, "Lots of things wrong with America, but Hitler ain't going to fix them." Despite the hardships and mistreatment Joe never lost faith in his country.

After the end of the war, and his discharge from the army, Louis received notice from the IRS that he owed the government over \$100,000 in taxes and fees assigned to the money he had raised fighting charity events for the war effort. Although he never received payment for these bouts the government was considering them income; Joe would have to fight on. He was still a good fighter, but it was obvious that the years had taken a toll. He was not as quick as he once was, and younger fighters routinely beat him to the punch. In March of 1949, Joe Louis officially retired from boxing but in May 1950, the IRS completed a second audit of his taxes. This audit showed he owed more than \$500,000 in back taxes and fees. Louis had no choice but to return to the ring.

By the time Joe Louis faced Ezzard Charles, in September of 1950, he was well past his prime. Louis was outclassed and battered by the younger fighter and eventually lost a 15-round decision. Louis earned just over \$100,000 for the bout. Still in debt, he accepted a guaranteed purse of \$300,000 to fight the up-and-coming Rocky Marciano. Those who had witnessed Marciano's punching power expressed legitimate concerns for Joe's safety and Marciano himself was reluctant to fight the aged Louis. In October of 1951, Marciano would go on to knock Louis out with a punch that drove him through the ropes and onto

the ring curtain. After the fight Sugar Ray Robinson wept for his friend and Marciano personally entered Joe's locker room to apologize. Joe Louis would never fight professionally again.

He would spend the rest of his life working to pay off his debt. He worked as a greeter at Caesar's Palace, was booked as a guest on various game shows, and tried his hand at professional wrestling, but in the end, it was not enough. Due to a combination of disgust over how the government had treated him, respect for the champion he had been, and appreciation for kindness he shown others, many outsiders stepped up to assist him in his later years. Former champ, Jack Dempsey served as an honorary chairman of a fund set up to assist Louis and friend, and reported mobster, Frank Lucas paid off a portion of his debt. The great German heavyweight Max Schmeling, who had beat Louis in 1936 and lost in a rematch in 1938, personally provided him with financial assistance throughout his retirement.

Despite his hardships, Joe Louis never wavered. He never became bitter, expressed anger publicly, or demonstrated disrespect to anyone. His ability to balance great strength and humility was instrumental in establishing himself as the first African American superstar and in paving the way for those who would follow. Had he been arrogant, angry, and abrasive it is quite possible that Jackie Robinson would not have been able to suit up for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Had he been more human in his emotional response to the racism he faced or the government-imposed debt he suffered with, it is plausible that the advance of the civil rights movement would have been delayed.

Joe Louis will always be remembered for his exploits in the ring, but we should endeavor not to forget his life outside of it.

## January Birthdays

8<sup>th</sup>- Jane Davison  
 10<sup>th</sup>- Sheila Wildermuth  
 10<sup>th</sup>- Elsie Preston  
 16<sup>th</sup>- Marjorie Mellott  
 26<sup>th</sup>-Howard Stoaks  
 29<sup>th</sup>-Mary Hoffman  
 31<sup>st</sup>- Betty Donaldson  
 31<sup>st</sup> Wilma Bloom



Congratulations to Norma Gold for winning the Christmas Door Decorating Challenge.



## Riddle of the Month....

**Q. A rooster laid an egg on top of the barn roof. Which way did it roll?**

**Answer to last month's questions:**

**Q. What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wraper?** *Ribbon Hood*

**Q. Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters?** *They always drop their needles.*

Please feel free to contact us via email at anytime

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## Cindy's Predictions for 2018

### How well did she do???

Trump and Russia— I believe we will hear less and less about this as 2018 goes along. The media will NOT concede that the alleged collusion never happened— but, they will eventually quit talking about it as it becomes clear that there is no story here... Well.... no evidence of “collusion” with Russia to “steal” the 2016 Presidential election has been presented— however, the Russia story continues to dominate the news. The “investigation” continues with no end in sight. I probably have to concede this one!

Trump and the Main Stream Media— as I said, the MSM will stop reporting on “collusion” – however, I don't expect them to champion him as President, either. Rather, I look for them to look for other perceived vulnerabilities (past claims of sexual harassment, fitness for office/mental health, past business decisions, etc.) and pummel him mercilessly – and, completely ignore and/or spin and/or diminish any of his administration's accomplishments. I believe I nailed this one!

FBI, CIA and Dept of Justice— In 2018 we are going to find out just how corrupt these organizations have become as whistleblowers will continue to come forward and expose the shady deals and

twisted “justice” of these and other government agencies. The entrenched DC bureaucrats have not been held accountable for quite some time— and, that is starting to change. Strap yourselves in....!! I think this prediction hit the mark, too— although, there is a lot more to be revealed!

STOCK MARKET— I think we will see the stock market continue to go up and up the first 3-6 months of 2018...but, the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year will present a different scenario! I think a 10% (or more) correction is overdue— and, probably needs to happen to clear the “fluff” out of the market. The New York Times recently reported (12/10/2018) that the Stock Market has wiped out its 2018 gains in recent weeks. We started the year riding high— at the end of the year investors are running for cover. This prediction seems to be “on the money” as well.

BITCOIN— hmmm, virtual “money” that you can't see or touch – that is not tied to anything “tangible” – or regulated by any government or financial organization--is valued at 10s of thousands of dollars (according to ???)— and, cannot be traced... what could possibly go wrong here? TechSpot.com news reported this week that “Bitcoin Is Dead” ... Crypto Currency values seem to be in free-fall with no end in sight. I seem to have gotten this one right, also!

THE CLINTONS will be back in the news. I expect a renewed interest in the email scandal, the Uranium One deal, the Clinton Foundation, etc., in 2018. I am predicting that there will be indictments and criminal charges against them related to one

*Cindy's Predictions Cont.*

or more of these controversies. Well...the Clintons are back on the trail— although this time they are selling tickets for “An Evening with the Clinton’s” in 9 different locations. Apparently, sales aren’t quite as robust as they had expected, and I have read that you can buy them on “Groupon” for about \$35...a deep discount from the \$287.00 they were asking for their NY appearance.

And, the Washington Post reported earlier this month that if/when William P Barr is confirmed as the head of the Dept of Justice – he is likely to take another look at the Uranium One deal and other alleged Clinton scandals. But, no indictments or criminal charges have been filed as of this date.

It is safe to say that the Clintons are “back in the news” – however, it’s too soon for me to “spike the ball” with respect to this prediction. I must concede (partially)!

THE NFL— has completely overplayed it’s hand. Ratings will continue to go down at the same time the NFL “business” officials (owners, coaches, etc.) will try to stuff this genie back in the bottle— or at least put a nice bow on the whole kneeling controversy and repackage it as something other than a protest. They will finally realize that the people who “buy” their “product” – in other words – the FANS, do not appreciate the disrespect shown toward our country, or its’ symbols, by a bunch of overpaid and under-informed football players. But, it is too late to fix this one, in my opinion.

I am taking a victory lap with this prediction. The NFL has tried to cover the issue up (by not televising the National Anthem prior to a game) and enforcing some fudgy “rules” governing player conduct during the National Anthem...but, the fans are not fooled. Throw in several player spectacles of bad behavior (ala Kareem Hunt of the Kansas City Chiefs) on top of the disrespect shown toward our country and law enforcement— and, ticket sales suffer.

Forbes magazine recently published an article entitled “NFL Sale Prices Being Hurt by League's Declining Popularity” which states “The NFL has never grasped the reality of the damage the National Anthem protests by its players has had on the league, and its recent cockamamie attempt to fix the problem will not bring back fans or television viewers. This is confirmed by the fact that the NFL has never been less popular in recent times: just 35% say they have a favorable view of the NFL, according to a survey released yesterday, down from 57% last August.”

**THE WORLD:**

ISIS and other terrorist groups will be put out of business in 2018. THE UNITED STATES HAS HAD ENOUGH— and, has finally gotten serious about dealing with them.

I hit the bullseye with this prediction, too. BBC News recently reported that “The US led coalition against so-called

*Cindy's Predictions Cont.*

**Islamic State** – says 98% of territory once claimed by the jihadist group across Iraq and Syria has been recaptured”. The article goes on to say that Iraq’s government announced that its’ war against the Islamic State is over. The **New York Times** reported (Sept 11, 2018) that “The last vestige of the Islamic State’s caliphate that straddled Syria and Iraq is under attack”.

**NORTH KOREA**— I put the chance of nuclear war with N Korea at 50/50 in 2018. While I think the NK regime is dangerous and capable of knee jerk reactions— I think the balance of power has tipped in our favor and it is likely we will take care of them first. Time will tell....

I am really happy to report that there has been no nuclear war with North Korea this year! And, Kim Jong Un has agreed to work toward a “complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula” during a summit with President Trump last June.

**OTHER:**

**CORNING PROJECT:** I predict we will break ground in 2018! **WRONG!**

*I am sure you are all wondering what predictions I have for 2019?!?! Well— you must wait for the next newsletter to find out 😊*

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

## From the Ground Up and Everywhere in Between...

By Don Cox

The annex face is now complete and Cindy’s office and Vintage Park storage areas are being used to the fullest capacity.

The renovation of the clinic is in full swing. The sheet rock and existing walls are mostly finished. The old electric outlets and lighting have been removed. The wet fire sprinklers have been capped off, and we are very close to installing the new under floor plumbing.

I feel that the whole project is moving along quickly and will be on target to finish as soon as we possibly can.



Deconstructed and ready for reconstruction

## Straight from the Kitchen Cupboard

By Amy Jenkins

We had a wonderful time celebrating over the holidays. It was great to see so many join us for the soup supper and Christmas. The food was plentiful, and everyone was in high spirits.

Our last "Around the World" took us to Mexico and we enjoyed steak and chicken fajitas. The majority of us agreed that the chicken fajitas out shined the steak fajitas in taste. Regardless, it was great to try them both.

Pull out your chopsticks for our next journey as we head overseas to China. One of their most famous dishes is their fried rice. Fried rice is a combination of rice, vegetables, egg and some form of protein. It can be served as a main dish or as a side. I think that for this trip we will be using shrimp in our fried rice. I just hope that everyone still has room for lunch afterwards. As always, keep it saucy and play with your food.

## January is National Hot Tea Month

As you fill up your coffee cup this month consider substituting your usual for a cup of hot tea. Tea has long been proven to have many health benefits and the following are a few of the most popular types.

- Green Tea
- Oolong Tea
- Black Tea
- Rooibos Tea
- Hibiscus Tea
- Chamomile Tea
- White Tea

Our coffee shop is always stocked with green and black tea so grab a cup the next time you are in.



Fajitas



## January Lunch Specials

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1. Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Gravy Carrots Apple Dessert	2. Honey Soy Glazed Turkey Citrus Rice Broccoli Bread Cheesecake	3. Italian Lasagna Cascade Blend Vegetables Garlic Toast Butterfinger Lush	4. Catch of the Day Baked Potato Green Bean Casserole Raspberry Crumb Bar	5. Philly Sandwich Coleslaw Pasta Salad Parmesan Corn Ice Cream
6. Roast Turkey Cranberry Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Gravy California Medley Pumpkin Pie	7. Ziti Green Beans Garlic Toast Peanut Butter Cookie Brownie	8. Tater Crusted Chicken Smoked Paprika Sweet Potatoes Green Beans Cherry Oat Crisp	9. Beef Pot Roast Mashed Potatoes Gravy Harvard Beets Fresh Baked Bread Red Velvet Cake	10. Mustard Glazed Pork Loin Mini Baker Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Raspberry Gelatin	11. Breaded Cod Scrod Macaroni & Cheese Creamy Coleslaw Apple Spice Cake	12. Ham Balls Asparagus Cornbread Pudding Parfait
13. Country Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes Gravy Peas Roll Pie	14. Cheeseburger Potato Salad Baked Beans Ice Cream Sundae	15. Cherry Glazed Ham Hashbrown Casserole Carrots Bread Chocolate Mint Brownie	16. Steak with Mushroom Gravy Mahsed Potaotes Seasonal Veggies Oatmeal Bars	17. Bruschetta Chicken Breast Sweet Balsamic Pasta Salad Cascade Blend Vegetables Pumpkin Cobbler	18. Cheddar Crumb Fish Parsley Buttered Potatoes Broccoli Candy Bar Cheesecake	19. Sweet & Sour Meatballs Baked Potato Coleslaw Bread Frosted Cake
20. Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes Gravy Balsamic Glazed Carrots Roll Pie	21. Pork Chop Cranberry Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Bread Pumpkin Earthquake Cake	22. Maple Glazed Meatloaf Mini Baker Potatoes Cascade Blend Veggies Bread PB Cup Blondie	23. Chicken Breast Cordon Bleu Broccoli Fresh Baked Bread Raspberry Marshmallow Fluff	24. Lasagna Butter Beans Garlic Toast Mint Chocolate Dessert	25. Salmon Florentine Parmesan Rice California Medley Bread Frosty Topped Gelatin	26. Pepper Steak Au Gratin Potatoes Parsley Corn Bread Cherry Pie Crumb Bar
27. Herbed Pork Loin Candied Sweet Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Roll Pie	28. Rotisserie Chicken Crispy Fried Potatoes Mixed Veggies Strawberry Shortcake	29. Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Gravy Carrots Apple Dessert Pizza	30. Honey Soy Glazed Turkey Citrus Rice Broccoli Bread Cherry Cheesecake	31. Italian Style Lasagna Cascade Blend Vegeatbles Garlic Toast Butterfinger Lush		

**Do you know what is in our country store?**

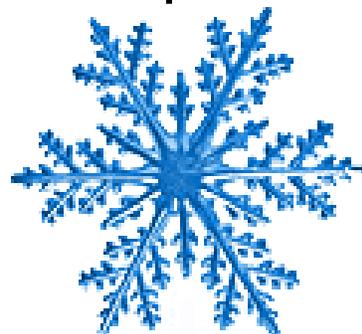
- Toilet paper
- Kleenex
- Tooth paste
- Hand soap
- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener
- Air freshener
- Deodorant
- Batteries
- Razors
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Denture cleaner
- Gum

**These items can be purchased with cash or for free with red tickets, or gift certificates. All of you received a \$5.00 gift certificate to redeem in the country store as part of your Christmas Gift so be sure to take advantage of it.**

**Doug or Melissa can open the store whenever items are needed.**

## **Snowflake Dance**

**January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**2pm**



Join us in your finest as we dance the afternoon away. Invite a friend or family to join you for the afternoon. Refreshments will be available.

We have a new Wii in the living room that was purchased with the memorial money from the family of Ron Davison. Ron loved to be involved in the activities at Vintage Park and what better way to keep his fun-loving spirit alive then to play a game with one another. See the calendar for new times that have been scheduled for Wii Bowling.



## Classic TV Shows

d y e n m z e o m u c e e w n n c l e f s s i i n a g s  
i c n k s a e m v k l d u l o l e e i s e n i n e i f l o h  
s u d o i c r n e z e i n h l n l r a y z f n a r e s a l c  
n l d m a g k a d d a m s f a m i l y l t o e a a l a l d n  
d e o s e y l i m a f e h t n i l l a p f h m l e a l e e u  
u v h n i v a o r e k l f l o a l e f i n e y c u s z f n b  
f o f u e e l y s y e a a n d y g r i f f i t h s h o w g y  
g l h g i r n v d s e i l l i b l l i h y l r e v e b r i d  
g i l l i g a n s i s l a n d g i o t n r o d e s i o l r a  
c a g n e y a n d l a c e y n a p m o c s e e r h t n o l r  
n r s b i v g s g c z c l c i n e a r i k m c s l m a s s b  
n d l c k o b l b e n h i e n s n g d a l e a a i y n h i b  
c t a c e e a a h s r r y p l l n k l o i m y l a t z v r c  
t e i r r a h d n a e i z z o f o s e r u t n e v d a u e t  
c d n i m e h a g t y n n d o d a e l g g a g m n b r v a c

Threes Company

Andy Griffith Show

Dick Van Dyke Show

Golden Girls

Beverly Hillbillies

Gilligans Island

Lone Ranger

Bonanza

Gunsmoke

Addams Family

Brady Bunch

I love Lucy

Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet

Cagney and Lacey

MacGyver

Alf

Cheers

Mash

All in the Family

Dallas

Roseanne

## From the Nurses Desk....

### 5 Ways to Beat the Winter Blues

1. Lace up your shoes and Get moving – 20 minutes of vigorous activity 4 times a week has been shown to reduce a depressed mood.
2. Set your alarm clock and stick to a sleep routine – Establishing a routine wake-up time and a bedtime ritual despite the day of the week. Strive for 7 hours of sleep every night. Also make sure your sleeping area is comfortable, slightly cool, and free of noisy distractions.
3. Laugh-Out-Loud – Experts believe that laughter stimulates processes in your brain that counteract the symptoms of depression. Since laughing is contagious invite some friends!
4. Give yourself a manageable task to accomplish – It's important to build activities into your day – even chores, like cleaning the floor – that will give you a sense of competence and accomplishment. We all have an innate need to feel competent in order to grow emotionally, have a sense of integrity, and maintain well-being.

5. Don't hesitate to see your healthcare professional – The "blues" can be part of some other system. Chronic pain, headaches, sleep disorders, and even heart disease are linked to depression.

<https://www.everydayhealth.com/depression/your-best-weapons-against-the-winter-blues.aspx>

If you're looking for a way to get out and about our Vintage Park Community, or looking for a stimulating work like activity, please do not hesitate to ask Melissa, Rachael, Kim or Doug for suggestions. There is always busy work to be done!



Santa visits  
Vintage Park



Debbie was so surprised on Christmas morning.



Ann telling Santa why she should be on the nice list.



Elsie smiles big because she knows she is on the nice list.

