

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Grants help ACAC pay for programs

INDEPENDENCE — The Ash Creek Arts Center was awarded two grants in October from two organizations. The Fred W. Fields Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation has granted \$1,500 for general operating support through the foundation's Small Arts and Culture Grants program. The Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation granted \$2,500 for ACAC's Art Cart program through its Community Giving Program. The nonprofit's new portable art cart helps it maintain a variety

of art supplies for use in indoor and outdoor art experiences, and makes the supplies easy for teachers to transport and use. ACAC will begin paying professional teachers who present its free classes and workshops. These grants also will help pay for ACAC's monthly Second Saturday Family Art Class series.

## Polk deputies arrest burglary suspect

WEST SALEM — The man police had been looking for in connection to burglary in Polk County was arrested Saturday. The Polk County Sheriff's Office received a tip early Saturday

that the suspect, Stewart Douglas Reagan, 44, was at a home on Spring Valley Road in West Salem. Polk deputies and officers with Salem Police Department found Reagan there and arrested him on unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen vehicle, felony driving while suspended and possession of methamphetamine. Reagan was also charged with first-degree burglary, first-degree theft, first-degree criminal mischief, second-degree criminal mischief and a second charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Reagan was taken to the Polk County Jail, where he is being held on \$115,000 bail.

# OBITUARIES

## Samuel 'Sam' James Cates

May 10, 1977 – Nov. 13, 2015  
Memorial gathering for Samuel "Sam" James Cates, 38, of Lincoln City, formerly of Pedee, is Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Pedee Women's Club Clubhouse. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Leslie 'Les' Oehler

May 30, 1946 – Nov. 19, 2015  
Memorial service for Leslie "Les" Oehler, 69, of Dallas is Wednesday (today) at 10 a.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Interment will be at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Katherine Gerig Bliven

Aug. 30, 1921 – Nov. 27, 2015  
Katherine "Kay" Bliven, 94, of Dallas died Friday. She was born to Nicholas and Olga Gerig in Salem. Kay graduated from Fruitland Elementary School and Salem High School. She married Arthur Bliven in Memphis, Tenn., on June 5, 1943, while he was serving in the Navy during World War II.

After his discharge from the military, they moved to Dallas. There they farmed until his retirement. Kay worked at Agripac Cannery for 26 years.

Kay was a member of Grace Community Church in Dallas.

She resided at the Dallas Retirement Village Assisted Living. She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur Bliven and eight siblings.

Survivors include her sister, Sarah (Joe) Ditchen of Salem; son, Larry (Gerrie) Bliven of Dallas; daughter, Betty (Stan) Welty of Monmouth; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial service is Wednesday (today) at 2 p.m. at the Dallas Retirement Village Chapel. Contributions are suggested to Grace Community Church Youth Mission Fund, Willamette Valley Hospice or Salem Union Gospel Mission. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

Contributions are suggested to Grace Community Church Youth Mission Fund, Willamette Valley Hospice or Salem Union Gospel Mission. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Annabelle C. 'Peachie' Hamm

July 12, 1939 – Nov. 24, 2015  
Annabelle C. "Peachie" Hamm, 76, of Grand Ronde died Nov. 24 in Grand Ronde. Viewing is Wednesday (today) from 2 to 7 p.m., at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Graveside service is Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery, with a meal to follow in the community center. Contributions are sug-

gested to the Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center or Father Taffy Foundation. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Crystal Elaine Knox

July 26, 1925 – Nov. 18, 2015  
Crystal Elaine Knox, 90, of Keizer died Nov. 18. She was born in Walla Walla, Wash., to James and Jesse Wayland. Crystal graduated from Pasco High School in Pasco, Wash. She attended Northwest Christian College in Eugene for two years, where she met her future husband Charles V. Knox. Crystal married Charles on Dec. 23, 1947, in Pasco. Crystal supported Charles, who was a pastor in churches at Falls City, Lebanon, Colfax, Heppner, Dallas and McMinnville. Crystal worked at JC Penney in Salem and later in the office at Salem First Christian Church. She then worked in Dallas at Bank of Willamette Valley.

She continued working in banking in McMinnville and retired from Commercial Bank in Salem in the mortgage and loan department. Crystal enjoyed playing the organ and piano. She enjoyed teaching piano lessons while in Heppner. She also enjoyed sewing and canning. She was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Charles Knox on March 14, 2014; sons, Chuck Knox on July 20, 2012; and Baby Boy Knox in 1953. Survivors include her daughter, Charlaire Knox;

three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Service is Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. Private interment will be at Dallas Cemetery. Contributions are suggested to Willamette Valley Hospice in care of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, which handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Paul Kenneth Erickson

April 20, 1974 – Nov. 7, 2015  
Paul Kenneth Erickson, 41, of Vancouver, Wash., formerly of Dallas, died Nov. 7 in Vancouver as a result of a pedestrian and motor vehicle accident. He was born in Dallas to Melvin and Judy Erickson. Paul grew up in Dallas and attended Dallas schools. Paul was a caregiver for his mother. He lived in Spokane for one year and had been in Vancouver the last five years. He was a member of the Lyle Rope Busters, and was talented with a jump rope and competed in exhibitions and was gifted in gymnastics. His nieces and nephews always loved it when Uncle Paul would baby-sit them. He was preceded in death by his mother, Judy and brother, James Southwick. Survivors include his father, Melvin of Dallas; sister, Tonya Wallis of Dallas; brothers, Gordon Southwick of Dallas and Todd Southwick of Aloha; and extended family. Celebration of Paul's life along with a potluck is Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Social Hall, 204 SW Walnut St. in Dallas. Private interment will be at Dallas Cemetery. Dallas Mortuary Tribute

## Antonia Anne (Tulou) Murray

Aug. 4, 1947 – Nov. 26, 2015  
Antonia Anne (Tulou) Murray, 68, of Independence, died Thursday. She was born in Geneva, Switzerland, to Pierre and Dorothy Tulou. Tonia's early years were spent in post-war Europe. Both her parents were physicians, which required Tonia to help care for her younger siblings throughout her childhood years after coming to the United States. As a young adult, Tonia achieved recognition by being inducted as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, an academic honor society at the University of North Carolina. She enjoyed a life filled with learning, a gift she and her husband passed on to their children. Those close to Tonia knew she dedicated her life to uphold principles of traditional hospitality, community, and good will. In all she did she enjoyed a life infused with curiosity and attuned to the Divine. She loved reading and adventure, and wove both into a life filled with magic and wonder. As a culinary expert, she inspired many. As a wife, Tonia was devoted to her husband, Marshall and the rich spiritual journey they built together. Throughout the nearly 47 years of marriage, she and Marshall were the best of friends. She was preceded in death by her son, Evan. Survivors include her husband, three brothers, two sisters, one daughter, two sons, 10 grandchildren, and extended family. Service was Tuesday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Monmouth.

## Denice Otha Scott

Sept. 29, 1962 – Nov. 24, 2015  
Denice Otha Scott, 53, of Independence died Nov. 24 in Independence. She was born in Palo Alto, Calif., to Wayne and JoAnn (Sharp) Downs. She married Andy Scott in Independence. She and Andy were owners of Andy's Café in Independence, where she had lived for 40 years. She was known to all as a spirited, caring individual, full of love and a zest for life. She loved travel, gardening and karaoke. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Whitney and grandson, Bret Brouse III. Survivors include her husband, Andy; son, Bret Brouse Jr.; stepdaughters, Katie Wilgus and Emily McComb; brothers, Mike and Mark; and four grandchildren. Service is Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. at Green Villa Barn in Independence.

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## Barbara Joy McGowan

Aug. 26, 1934 – Nov. 26, 2015  
Barbara Joy McGowan, 81, of Salem died on Thursday. Graveside service is Sunday at 11 a.m. at Hilltop Cemetery in Independence. Farnstrom Mortuary in Independence handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.FarnstromMortuary.com](http://www.FarnstromMortuary.com).

## Cathryn Margaret Glenn Wilson

Aug. 4, 1927 – Nov. 22, 2015  
Service for Cathryn Wilson, 88, of Dallas is Monday at 2 p.m. at Dallas Retirement Village Chapel. Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled arrangements. To send an online tribute: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

## Obituary information

See the Itemizer-Observer website, [www.polkio.com](http://www.polkio.com).

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## Joann Harland ~ Carolyn Joann Owen

Joann, 86, passed away Nov. 18 in Dallas, OR. She was born to Joe and Edna Owen of Crow. After attending college OCE (now OSU) she married Bill Harland in 1952. Joann was involved in many activities in the community. She played Mary in the Rickreall Christmas Pageant, volunteered at the Polk County Fair and the Polk County Museum where the family has a display of Native American artifacts found on the family farm which is now part of the Basket Slough National Wildlife Refuge. The couple farmed for over 40 years in Polk County, enjoyed several years living in Pacific City, then moved back to Dallas. While living at the coast Joann enjoyed spending time on the beach with her grandkids and salmon fishing, which she was an expert at 'catching'. There is a famous photo displayed in several Dallas households where Joann out fished a rugged group of young dory fishermen. Divining or 'water witching' was one of Joann's true talents. Another hobby which eventually became a business was antiques. She ran antique shops, conducted estate appraisals and traveled statewide displaying her acquisitions at shows. Her love of antiques was portrayed in their house on Fir Villa Rd. as Joann assisted the builder to accommodate her family heirlooms. The split level home was designed to capture valley views to the east and western sunsets. Joann was an amazing cook; she enjoyed throwing fabulous dinners for reunions and holiday celebrations. There was always an extra plate setting for farmhands or anyone that stopped by at mealtime, they were at all times welcomed. Joann's husband Bill preceded her in death in 2006. Her remaining family includes; son Ron Harland, granddaughter Andrea (Harland) Rose, grandson Mathew Harland, and daughter Sue (Harland) Irick. Memorial contributions may be made to the Polk County Museum or the Alzheimer's Foundation in care of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center. A private interment will be at the Dallas Cemetery. To send an online tribute go to: [www.dallastrIBUTE.com](http://www.dallastrIBUTE.com).

