

Gilliam

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cabinet before the swearing-in. As I prepared for my strategic tasks to hang coats & pour coffee, the first guest arrived... It was in-coming Secretary of State, Alexander Haig. "General" Haig began barking orders and I looked around for a soldier...and realized: "I was in the Army now!" He demanded coffee and a telephone pronto and I immediately obliged and overheard the following from him on the phone:

"You tell those Iranians when we're sworn-in, the American hostages will be a whole new ball game!"

And he slammed the receiver down. I thought Haig was going to be joint Secretaries of State AND Defense!

After six years in D.C. I returned to Oregon on staff at Willamette University. Again political ambition was stirred with an opening in my neighborhood in the Oregon House. Was I the next Mark Hatfield? Could I copy his march from Willamette University across the street to the Legislature, Secretary of State, Governor, Congress and beyond!?

Nope. My losing streak returned and I couldn't get out of the Primary in '86 or '88.

Twenty years later, after a career in charitable fund-raising from Willamette University to Mercy Corps & living in Silverton, an opening in the legislature came my way again. Nobody was more surprised than me to be appointed. Now at 63, I hope to be focused on representing Oregon's



Vic Gilliam and his wife, Becky, at the OBA Statesman Dinner.

JOEL FISCHER / OBA

Christmas Tree District in Salem and resisting temptations to climb the ladder of power and ambition.

So many experiences from a decade in Salem - like the evening the entire Oregon House amazingly escorted me to the Senate President's office. Now, I don't always understand our longest serving Oregon Senate President but I respect him for things like his passion for improved care for our vulnerable mentally ill population. But, despite our efforts we've never convinced the President of

the Senate to release our "Hatfield statue bill."

And that's ok because here is one indelible lesson I've learned:

At the close of the last legislative session, my good friend Rep. Brian Clem and I retreated to my office feeling defeated as our statue bill died once again. In hopes of lifting our spirits, we decided to read from our favorite devotional book. Brian made a wonderful error that day. As he thumbed thru the book he mistakenly landed on the daily message from ex-

actly one month before. The scripture verse from that day was from 2nd Corinthians:

"So we fix our eyes not what is seen, but what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Due to Brian's "divine mistake," I began to consider that it wasn't merely about sending a marble image to Statuary Hall in our nation's Capitol. Instead I realized the significance of shining a light on the faith and legacy of a sterling statesman and humble leader, Mark O.

Hatfield. The "Peaceful March" from the House to the Senate the previous evening, is to me, a shining example of the manifestation of the "unseen" vs. the "seen." The unity of members and staff of the House of Representatives that night was astonishing.

And tonight's OBA banquet is another unique opportunity to spotlight Hatfield's extraordinary example of true public service.

OBA has honored many Oregonians including two of my favorites

co-speakers of the House: Bruce Hanna and Arnie Roblan. Mark Hatfield won this award in 2004 which could have been the end-all of Statesman banquets...I'm just lucky to be here, barely, in the Roblan, Hanna and Hatfield shadows.

The Senator possessed political and personal power, yet kept it under control by reaching out in love and putting others first. He resisted selfishness by navigating life from the heart.

Mark Hatfield knew that scripture can turn hearts above government activity. His example to me along with other relationships I've had with people like Senator Jason Atkinson and Marion County Commissioner Kevin Cameron - have fortified my faith in Jesus.

I close with this passage from Galatians. I feel this scripture can inspire "statesmanship behavior" rooted in faith and resulting in fruitful relationships - even in the tempest of politics.

"... God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other, and where will your precious freedom be then? (Galatians, The Message Version)

Thank you for tonight and may the Lord bless all of you."

THE WEEK AHEAD

THROUGH OCTOBER

Borland Gallery: Silverton Art Association Open Studio Painters Show, a collection of 81 paintings, in various mediums, produced by 9 different artists who paint together in the art studio, through Sunday. Gallery hours: 8 a.m. to noon Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays; noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 303 Coolidge St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-363-9310, Silvertonarts.org.

Lunaria Gallery: "Cityscapes, Landscapes, and Otherscapes," an exhibit of weavings--tapestries, shawls and scarves--by Genie Stewart and paintings in

watercolor and acrylic by Sonia Allen, through Monday. Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, 113 N Water St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-873-7734, Lunariagallery.com.

TODAY

Providence Benedictine Fall Lecture Series: Dr. Joanna O'Leary will present the latest information on the evaluation and treatment of movement disorders, such as Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, and dystonia, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Providence Benedictine Orchard House Assisted Living, Orchard House Community Room, 550 S Main St., Mt. Angel. **Free.**

503-845-6841.

FRIDAY

Silvertongues Toastmasters: Develop speaking skills by organizing your thoughts, thinking on your feet and building confidence and leadership skills in a friendly and supportive environment. Guests invited, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Silverton Community Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1159 Oak St., Silverton. 503-873-4198.

SATURDAY

Saturday Lunches: Noon to 1:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 500 N Second St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-873-2635.

Dead Poets Reading: Portrayals, in costume, of honored deceased poets, with readings from their works, 7 to 9 p.m., Creekside Grill, 242 S Water St., Silverton. **Free,** donation encouraged. 503-873-5768, Silvertonpoetry.org.

Scratchdog Stringband: Americana/rockgrass, 9 p.m., Mac's Place, 201 N Water St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-380-8895, Scratchdogstringband.com.

TUESDAY

Adult Coloring Night: Relax and de-stress at the library with some adult conversation, re-

freshments and coloring. All materials provided, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Silver Falls Library, 410 S Water St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-873-8796.

NOV. 2-28

Lunaria Gallery: "Be Thankful for Art," a showcase of the range of artwork that each member brings to the co-operative. Also on display in the gallery's loft, "Late Bloomer" includes botanical paintings by Portland artist Musa Jaman. Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Reception, 7 to 9 p.m. Nov. 4, 113 N Water St., Silverton. **Free.** 503-873-7734, Lunariagallery.com.

BIRTHS

The following are birth announcements submitted to the Silverton Appeal Tribune. For more, go to **StatesmanJournal.com/Records.**

SILVERTON HOSPITAL

Ditchen, Brooklyn Grace: To Sierra and Keith Ditchen, Silverton, 9 pounds 5 ounces, Oct. 4.

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#A2316
PRIVATE & SECLUDED
4 BR, 4 BA 82,000
ACRES CALL MARCIA AT EXT. 318
\$849,000 (WVMLS#706727)

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#A2334
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3 BR, 1BA 1179 SQFT.
CALL MICHAEL AT EXT 313 OR
BECKY AT EXT 313
\$241,000 (WVMLS#709096)

SALEM

#A2284
COLONIAL HOME ON ACREAGE
4 BR, 4.5 BA 3680 SQFT.
1.510 ACRES
CALL CHUCK AT EXT. 325
\$479,900 (WVMLS#701127)

SILVERTON

#A2349
VINTAGE 1947 HOME
3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2706 SQFT
CALL MEREDITH AT EXT. 324,
RYAN AT EXT. 322
\$398,400 (WVMLS#710523)

TURNER

#A2319
LARGE TURNER HOME
5BR, 2.5BA 3090SQFT
CALL MICHAEL AT EXT. 314
\$449,900 (WVMLS#706991)

SILVERTON

#A2341
2 HOMES ON 2 ACRES
3 BR, 2 BA 1367 SQFT. 2.630 ACRES
CALL CHUCK AT EXT. 325
\$549,900 (WVMLS#709561)

SALEM

#A2311
HOWELL PRAIRIE FARM
3 BR 2 BA 26.77 ACRES
CALL CHUCK AT EXT. 325
\$549,900 (WVMLS#706154)

SALEM

#A2344
BUILDABLE LAND
18.930 ACRES
CALL MARY AT EXT. 320
\$705,000 (WVMLS#709699)

MT. ANGEL

#A2233
2 ACRE LOT IN MT. ANGEL
2 acres
Call Chuck at ext. 325
\$189,500 (WVMLS#693008)

MT. ANGEL

#A2326
PLENTRY OF ROOM
5 BR, 2 BA 2354 sqft.
Call Mary at ext. 320,
Angela at ext. 312
\$269,000 (WVMLS#708384)

SILVERTON

#A2351
HISTORIC HOME
4 BR, 2 BA, 2256 sqft
Call Meredith at ext. 324, Ryan at ext. 322
\$425,000 (WVMLS#710687)

SALEM

#A2313
LARGE CORNER LOT
4 BR, 2.5 BA 1805 sqft.
Call Becky at ext. 313
\$250,000 (WVMLS#707212)

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