



Donors are noted on rear window (Bryan Harley photo)

A Christmas pickup

(Continued from page 1)

return," said Annette. She asked her brother, Jay Rollins, if he might be able to find somebody to paint Larry's truck, maybe do a little work to spruce it up. She got a lot more than she bargained for.

Jay enlisted the help of Jerry and Shawn Lamb of Lamb's Body Shop.

Letters were drafted and sent to local automotive repair and supply stores, asking for anything that they might be able to provide in order to assist in its restoration.

The response was more than they could have expected. At least 12 businesses, most local, but from as far away as Medford, rallied around the cause.

"We got rims donated from Les Schwab out of Grants Pass, Bi-Rite Auto Parts here in town donated a tune-up kit, and guys from M & M Automotive installed it," said Shawn Lamb.

The list goes on. The truck was furtively towed to Lamb's Body Shop, who contributed the necessary environment and the know how for the transformation to occur.

Industrial Finishes donated paint and materials. Advantage Auto Glass in Medford chipped in, as did Rogue Truck, Phillips Auto Wrecking, Blue Jay Upholstery, Napa Auto Parts, SL Customs, and Valley Muffler, according to the Lambs.

Annette and the Smith family did their best to keep the secret from Larry.

Jerry and Shawn Lamb, Jay Rollins, Larry's nephews and friends began their extreme truck make-over on Monday, Dec. 5. Seven days later, Shawn put the finishing touches on the custom paint job.

The old Ford's engine rumbled again.

On the eighth day, those same friends and family met at a house just

off Dick George Road to present Smith his surprise.

Larry was ordered to sit in the living room as Shawn put in a tape he had made showing the truck stripped down, its hood off, looking as if it sat in a chop shop.

The frames advanced, each click bringing a different moment of the restoration to life.

Larry watched, confused but curious, surrounded by the people who love him and who brought the old truck back to life.

"It maybe had a few dents in it, huh?" laughed Smith.

The slides stopped. Shawn Lamb asked Larry to step outside. The gathering of friends followed on Larry's heels.

Son in hand, his eyes wide with anticipation, Larry walked out the door.

Jerry Lamb revved the engine to announce their arrival.

Larry's grin spread across his face, a look of disbelief tempered with joy. He raised his ball cap, rubbed his head, his eyes close to overflowing with the emotions.

Jerry popped the hood. The crowd could feel the F-150 every time Jerry stepped on the accelerator.

Larry circled the truck for 20 minutes, inspected it inside and out, noting the quality of the work and how many of the original parts were salvaged.

He thanked everyone involved repeatedly, especially Shawn Lamb for the stylish custom flames that streaked the sides.

"God bless you all," said Smith to the crowd.

Through the power of a wife's love and through the unselfish contributions of a community, more than a truck was restored.

For a family who has had more than their share of hardships, at least for one day, they were able to restore the powers of faith and hope.

Homicide

(Continued from page 1)

conducted.

JCSO began regarding the case as a homicide Thursday, Dec. 15. "We were notified by Oregon State Police investigators that the fire was deliberately set," said Sgt. Ken Selig, of JCSO.

At the fire scene, witnesses told sheriff's detectives that smoke was seen coming from the interior of the residence shortly before 2 a.m. Fire quickly engulfed the mobile shortly thereaf-

ter, said Selig.

Approximately 17 I.V. Fire District (IVFD) staff and volunteers responded to the alarm. They extinguished the flames and kept them from reaching adjacent mobile homes.

Firefighters were on-scene for at least two hours.

Subsequently, during the next two days, Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office and OSP Arson Squad officers from Central Point conducted an on-scene investigation with IVFD.

Help to prevent thefts

During the past several years during the holiday season the Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety has experienced multiple incidents of thefts from motor vehicles, and thefts of wallets and purses.

The majority of thefts from motor vehicles occur on parking lots mostly during daylight hours. The majority of thefts of wallets and purses usually occur inside retail establishments. Following is a list of suggestions to protect yourself and your property during the holiday season.

Personal safety:

Make sure someone close to you knows where you are going and when you will return.

Avoid dark, deserted routes, even if they are the shortest.

Carry a little extra money for emergency telephone or transportation use.

When possible, travel with friends or relatives.

Hold your purse close to your body, don't dangle it.

If you put your purse in a shopping cart, secure it to the shopping cart and keep it zipped up.

Don't overburden yourself carrying packages or groceries.

Have your key in hand when you approach your vehicle or your residence.

Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you.

Carry a cellular phone or pepper spray if possible.

If someone attacks you, scream, kick, hit, bite, scratch, etc. to do what it takes to get away.

Get the best description you can and phone 911.

Vehicle security:

At night, park in well-lit areas close to your home or the building you're visiting.

Always lock your doors and roll up your windows completely after parking your vehicle.

Never leave valuables visible in your vehicle. Lock them in your trunk.

If you have a vehicle alarm system, make sure you use it.

Obituaries

David A. Fuller

David Allyn Fuller, 70, of Cave Junction, died at home Saturday, Dec. 10, 2005.

A memorial service was held at his home Dec. 12, and a wake at Art's Red Garter Saloon in Cave Junction Dec. 19.

Mr. Fuller was born on April 29, 1935 in Portland to Floyd Foster Fuller and Muriel D. (Carter) Fuller. He was raised in Scappoose until he joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 1954, serving aboard the cutters "Eagle" and "Cactus." He was honorably discharged in 1958 with the rank of petty officer 2nd class/yeoman.

He raised a family from 1960 to '98 in San Jose, Calif., where he worked as an electronics engineer for Lockheed Missiles and Space Co. He moved to Cave Junction in '99.

Mr. Fuller was known as a proud husband to his wife, Leta Finley, of Cave Junction, who survives; a son, Daniel Fuller; two daughters, Dawn Fuller and Jackie Bell; two granddaughters; a grandson; and four great-grandsons.

Charles P. Packard

No service will be held for Grants Pass native Charles Phillip Packard, 78 of Cave Junction, who died Sunday,

Dec. 4, 2005 at a health center in Grants Pass.

Mr. Packard was born on Jan. 20, 1927 in Grants Pass. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1944 to 1949. He was an artist for Walt Disney Studios in the 1950s.

He worked for M.C. Linger and Sons from 1962-1967, and Harold Compton from 1973-1979, both in Medford. He retired in 1989. He moved to Cave Junction in 2001 from Medford.

He was a member of Universal Life Church and was an ordained reverend. He enjoyed art, oil painting, and studying history and religion.


He is survived by a son, Tom Hall, of Chico, Calif.; two daughters, Charlene Hall, of Cave Junction, and Jackie Clothier, of Tampa; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Grants Pass Funeral Alternatives is in charge of arrangements.

Ray E. Pool

A family service will be held for Takilma resident Ray E. Pool, 56, who died at home Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005.

Arrangements are being handled by Hull & Hull Funeral Directors.



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 - Confucius -

Never wash a car, mow a yard, or select a Christmas tree after dark.

Clean out a different drawer in your house every week.

Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.



NO CAPTION NEEDED. ('Illinois Valley News' photo)

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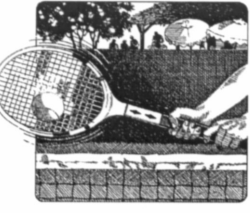
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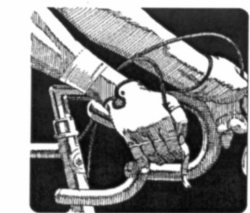
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