

Happy Camp News: by Judy Bushy

The Happy Camp tree lights up the night! Happy Camp now has their official Christmas tree lit! Like the past three or four years, there was a parade as well with brave people coming out to see several fire trucks, ambulance and decorated floats full of lights drive down Davis Road a couple of blocks to the Oak Knoll-Happy Camp Forest Service Office parking lot, where the tree resides.

Unfortunately, I was just a tiny bit late closing up my volunteer job and missed seeing and hearing the carolers from the Happy Camp Assembly of God Church who were planning to have a float and carol in the parade. We used to have such a good time sitting on a wagon on hay bales and being pulled around Indian Meadows and around town, wondering if the pulling vehicle could manage the weight on the hill from the Meadows so we could carol for some elders around town.

Then the Assembly and Christian Fellowship and Bible Church got together for a warm potluck with fancy Christmas desserts afterwards. When Jon Saler was the music teacher there were students from school singing at each tree lighting and that was the best part of the evening. Well, for the youngsters perhaps it was sitting on Santa's lap and getting a candy cane and sometimes an orange, but adults loved to hear them sing.

Happy Camp being such a big place, (not really) we tried to circle the town and come the other way to perhaps catch a view, but all we saw were people's cars and trucks parked along the way. It was a really cold night so perhaps being in a heated vehicle was the best way to observe the parade. But the tree had not been lit as of yet.

When the tree was lit up, I was really impressed at how great it looked. It is noticeably smaller,

having had a "haircut." It looks like new lights have been put on since Cathleen Searle of Forest Lodge Motel led the Chamber of Commerce effort to buy new lights back in 2011. It is really looking good, especially with a big beautiful star on top, like George Chambers made years ago.

Speaking of decorations for the holidays, last week I noticed that a home on Washington and one on Curly Jack were looking very merry. A few more are coming out with bright lights, it looks so cheery. The first home I'd noticed on Washington Street now has more to look at with a nativity scene.

We went to town last Friday for Friends of the Siskiyou County Museum and now we will be greeted by cheery lights when we arrive back to town.

I knew Gail Jenner was going to present her new book, "Sourdough Biscuits and Pioneer Pies," for a

book signing at the museum. Gail has had 10 books published and won awards so she had several books available. "Ankle High and Knee Deep" about women and rural living, looks real interesting. "Black Bart the Poet Bandit" and Redwood National and State Parks provide some really interesting reads and such a variety of genre.

I've just started making sourdough so was happy to see recipes. My son makes sourdough bread regularly and we enjoy it when he brings a loaf over to share with us. When he gave me a starter, it all got made into pancakes for breakfast one Dear Mad'm Symposium. We still don't know if Stella Patterson made bread, if so likely sourdough, or bought store bread. Karen Tulleo told about a neighbor at Clear Creek who may have shared sourdough with her. Back in the day they could get a few groceries delivered with one's mail thanks to mailman giving service above and beyond his daily mail delivery. But there are plenty of questions we have about life back then, and we keep trying to find answers.

Also present at the Siskiyou County Museum was Marilyn Kilpatrick, author of "In the Shadow of Lewis and Clark," Jae Hall of "Shasta Nations with Betty Lou Hall" and Jill Livingston and her sister Karhryn Goldne Maloof with their books. Also, Mike Bryan had "A Dose of Cowboy Humor, Stories and Poems." There are more books available in the gift shop at the Siskiyou County Museum and they make wonderful gifts. They also had carved

hair sticks and kitchen helpers by a Karuk. In addition, Mr. Ralph Starrit who helped our community with the Bigfoot Statue, had some metal feathers. For the prospector who needs a tiny gold pan, it comes with a speck of gold! It was such a fun day at the museum.

Next Saturday will be the Karuk Christmas Party at the Second Avenue Multipurpose Room for a great time for the kids. Then, next week, they'll finish up the schooling for the year.

For the following Thursday, Dec 21, there will be a program at Seiad Elementary School at 3:30 p.m. for their students. Then at 6:30 p.m. there will be a program at the Happy Camp Elementary School for Happy Camp students and the Dancing Toes.

Right now, everyone is concerned with our local firefighters who are fighting fires in Southern California. Between now and then we do hope that those terrible fires in Southern California will be contained. Many homes have been destroyed, but only one, 70-year-old woman, has been a human fatality thus far. However they have 66 horses or ponies that haven't been able to escape the fire, and possibly more that won't be found until the evacuations are lifted and people return to their homes. Still, it is time of smoke and other difficulties for all in the area. We remember when fires have come close to our communities and understand some of the difficulty. Those with loved ones who are firefighters would appreciate it if you will keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

This tree lights up Happy Camp! A Saturday evening was lit up with our parade on the way to greeting Santa's arrival under the tree at the Happy Camp Forest Service Office.



(Photo courtesy of Laura Wilinskey for the Illinois Valley News)

A well lit and decorated U.S. Forest Service truck during the Happy Camp Parade Saturday, Dec. 9.

Recently Expanded to Serve You Better!

Oregon Caves Chevron
541-592-3080

Family owned and operated for over 31 years!

BINGO FOR AGES 8 & UP
 Wednesdays
 Early Bird 6 - 6:30PM
 17 Games 6:30 - 9:30PM
 Hamburgers for Sale
 520 E. River Street, CJ
 IV Senior Center
 open to the public

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST OR ORDER OFF THE MENU AT THE IV GRANGE

FIRST THREE SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH: 8 AM - 12 PM
 3763 Holland Loop
 541-659-3781 or 541-415-1819

STUMP GRINDING
 Any Size
 Contact Terry 541-660-9880
 LICENSED and INSURED

ALL CUSTOM JEWELRY DESIGNS & REPAIRS DONE IN HOUSE!

TUES - FRI 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
 SAT 10 AM - 2 PM
 SUN & MON CLOSED

23772 Redwood Highway
 KERBY, OR
 541-592-4838

Starting or Growing a Business in Illinois Valley?

Need money?

Micro Business Loan Funding Always Available!
 *Start-up, existing, home-based or other business enterprises
 *\$200 minimum to \$25,000 maximum
 *Apply at the IVCDO office - 201 Caves Hwy.
 *Questions? Phone 541-592-4440

One drop of ink

#newspapersthive

Illinois Valley News
 can make a whole valley think.

TAYLOR'S Sausage

Hickory Smoked Turkeys: \$3.39 lb
 Hickory Smoked Hams: Boneless Pitt \$3.49 lb
 Old Fashioned Bone in: \$2.69 lb
 Little Pig Breakfast Links \$3.99 lb
 Swedish Potato Sausage Links: \$3.49 lb

Gift Cards and Gift Packs available!
 Smoked Snacks for Stocking Stuffers and over 100 home made sausage and snack items available!