

BIRTHS

Richert

Remington Michael James Richert was born to Jonathan and Ashley Richert of Dallas at 8:38 a.m. on Dec. 13 at Silvertown Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

Remington is the couple's first child.

Grandparents are Bruce and DeAnna Richert of Dallas and Bill and Jill Pfankuch of West Salem.

Great-grandparents are Walt and Evelyn Roquet of Dallas, Dormer and Lois Richert of Dallas, and Bill and Linda Lewis of Fullerton, Calif.

Ensz

Finley LaRue Ensz was born to Brandon and Victoria Ensz of Portland at 5:22 p.m. on Dec. 19 at Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center in Oregon City.

She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20½ inches long.

Finley is the couple's first child.

Grandparents are Glen and Cindy Ensz of Dallas and Kurt and Tami Loehlein of Spokane, Wash.

Bruno

Keegan Max Bruno was born to GianPaul and Stephanie Bruno of Dallas at 9:23 a.m. on Dec. 28 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 9 pounds and was 20 inches long.

Keegan joins Natasha, 18, Tristan, 16, Hailey, 12, and Meghan, 9.

Grandparents are Debbie Mersch of Independence, Karen Syers of Lebanon and Paul Knox of Kingston, Okla.

MI TOWN



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

We celebrated the end of 2014 watching two Central High graduates — and outstanding football players — in postseason college bowl games. Jordan Pratt, wide receiver for Stanford University, and his team beat Maryland resoundingly in the Foster Farms Bowl on Dec. 30. Boise State quarterback Grant Hedrick and the Broncos kept us on the edge of our seats as they narrowly won over the Arizona Wildcats in the Vizio Fiesta Bowl on Dec. 31. Both of these young men and their teammates have given many of us in MI Town all kinds of bragging rights as we begin the new year.

I'd like to thank the Monmouth-Independence Lions Club for providing MI Town with a wonderful community breakfast for our area sen-

iors and their families on Jan. 1 at the Monmouth Senior Center. We shared a hearty breakfast with friends and neighbors. It's a joy to be surrounded by such caring and hard-working volunteers who do so many good things for all of us.

Our recent cold and crisp weather has given us many reasons to bundle up in warm coats, hats and mittens as we head out on our way to work, school and for walks around MI Town. It's also a good time to remember our

other family members — cats and dogs and other pets who would welcome the opportunity to sleep in a warm house when the temperature dips below freezing. If pets must spend the majority of their time outdoors, try to find a sheltered spot and an old blanket for them to sleep on, a place to find refuge during these bitterly cold winter nights. Always be sure there is a bowl of fresh water that hasn't frozen over. These furry creatures give us unconditional love on a daily basis, so let's return the favor and help them keep warm this winter.

A group of talented local musicians get together on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Monmouth Senior Center for a couple hours of

music and fun. Community members are invited to participate or to listen and enjoy good music and conversation. The next gathering will be Jan. 14. The Monmouth Senior Center is located at 180 S. Warren St.

We're one week into 2015, and those of us who made resolutions have no doubt broken at least one or two by now. This year, why not make a resolution to "pay it forward?" How about helping to pay for a family's groceries, or buying coffee for the next car in line, or secretly picking up somebody's dinner check? Or maybe taking cookies to a neighbor who lives alone? Doing something for somebody else is doubly rewarding.

Happy New Year, everyone!

PEDEE NEWS



ARLENE KOVASH
Columnist

Did Christmas come early this year or what? No, Thanksgiving was late, so the time between the holidays was just short enough between the two that activities seemed to be more low key.

Norm and Donna Baldwin's son, Dan, his wife, Jael, and their daughters, Ginger and Molly, came to Pedee from Holley (near Sweet Home) for dinner, as well as did "neighbors" Wyatt and Joy Overly — neighbors to us being anyone within, say, 10 miles.

Betty Forry was delighted to celebrate her 101st Christmas in the company of daughter June Clark, grandson Patrick Clark, and great-granddaughter Britni Weiss-Clark. Britni was able to spend three days in Pedee enjoying time with her oldest living relative and uncle.

Daniel Russell's parents, Jerry and Phyllis Russell of Pleasant Hill, spent much of Christmas day with him, wife Heidi and their kids. They shared gifts with one another and snacked on cheese fon-

due. The next day, Heidi's whole side of the family joined them — her grandparents from Sisters, her brother and his family from Cottage Grove, her sister and her family from Redding, Calif., and her parents from Creswell. They exchanged gifts, played games and had a great time together.

Steven and Audrey Cameron gathered at son James and his wife Jenny's house in Milwaukie for Christmas with their family. The six littlest cousins had so much fun, they got together again on Dec. 29 at the Portland Zoo.

Pam Burbank went to Prineville to be with her parents, Alvin and Elsie Jones. Family that came and went over the week were brother Larry Jones and his wife

Michele and daughter Kailee from Eugene, sister Kathy and husband Scott McKinley from Albany, son Jon and Maiya Burbank from Portland, and son Michael Burbank from Monmouth. Those that went home over Christmas weekend hit snow and slow traffic, and had to put on chains to get over the mountain passes, while Pam stayed and enjoyed 4 inches of snow and zero-degree weather.

Dave and Suzanne Burbank had a Christmas Eve dinner with Dave's brothers, Dan and his wife Mikki from Dallas, and Dennis and his daughter Rachel from Independence, son Derek and his girlfriend Ashley Gruzca from Turner, and his aunt Alberta Jones and cousin Raymond Jones. On Christmas Day, Dave and Suzanne, and Paul and I, had breakfast with son Brennan and Callie and their kids Annabelle and Jake in Independence, then went on in to Salem to have lunch and dinner with sister Lorraine and Doug Odell and their two daughters, Victoria and Christina.

Sam and Judy Guida had their Christmas dinner on Christmas Eve with friends and family. Sam's niece, Jackie, came down to help out, and brother Joe was there from Houston for a week's visit. Bob and Lynda Schneckburger visited on Christmas Day. Their son, Matt, and Amanda Guida and granddaughter Miranda came for a four-day visit after Christmas. Sam, with leukemia, is rather pessimistic about making it to another Christmas, so he appreciated the company on this one.

Pedee Church served dinner to the homeless under the Marion Street Bridge in Salem twice in December (Dec. 22 and Dec. 29), taking Christmas goodie bags to the approximately 125 people. The bags were made up by the congregation after church on Dec. 21. Churches in and near Salem take turns serving dinner and Pedee is scheduled for the fourth Monday, plus take the fifth Monday if there is one, of the month. The people are very appreciative.

Happy New Year!

New Year's is a time to reflect on the year past. It is also a time to set goals for the future, and Edward Jones can help you do just that. We're in your neighborhood and available to help you take steps now to help meet your long-term financial goals.

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