

A SHOW OF HANDS FOR KINDNESS



The Eagle/Cheryl Hoefler

Humbolt Elementary first-graders and staff from Peggy Murphy and Mandy Ipson's classes, along with Heart of Grant County staff, give a show of hands with a poster the students created following a "Hands and Words are Not for Hurting" presentation led by Heart staff. In the project, the students also took the pledge, "I will not use my hands or my words for hurting myself or others." In back, from left, teacher Peggy Murphy, Humbolt educational assistant Jenny Juve, Heart executive director Shelly Whale, Heart victim advocate Cindy Kalin, Humbolt educational assistant Suzy Burton, teacher Mandy Ipson, and Humbolt educational assistant Crista Waldner.

Fall festival on tap at Cottonwood

Vendors from JD River Territory can sign up now

Blue Mountain Eagle

WASCO – Oregon's newest state park, Cottonwood Canyon, in Gilliam County, will be the setting for a family-oriented festival on Sept. 12. "Taste of Oregon's Old West" will showcase the locally grown food and beverages, recreation, specialty lodging and dining, culture, and landscape of the John Day River Territory of Oregon. Visitors will have a chance to taste the flavors of the region including honey and wheat snacks, natural beef, microbrews, wine, and fruit. There will also be homestead skills and demonstrations, and information on recreational opportunities such as ranch and cabin stays, agriculture tours, rafting, hunting outfitters, and more.

will be highlighted, as well as horseback rides along the John Day River and a guided hike.

Admission is free; there may be a small fee with some activities.

Prospective vendors and exhibitors must be located within or adjacent to the John Day River Territory – Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler and Grant counties. Sign up by contacting Jaclyn McCurdy at 541-739-2321, or email city-hall@cityofrufus.com.

Established in 2013, the 8,000-acre state park is the second largest in Oregon. Formerly a ranch, it features rugged, steep and scenic canyons carved by the winding John Day River.

Cottonwood Canyon State Park is located on County Road 206, about 16 miles southeast of Wasco, and 25 miles northwest of Condon.

For more information about "Taste of Oregon's Old West," visit www.johndayriverterritory.com.

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Prairie City Seniors

Rose Coombs



PRAIRIE CITY – Hope you had a happy St. Patrick's Day. Now on to Spring and Easter, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. My that year went fast didn't it? The Food Bank brought over some

perishables – apples, oranges and onions – for distribution. Thanks a lot. Chip.

Buzz led the flag salute, and Darrell Johnson asked the blessing. Ken Kulis won the \$5 in trade from Prairie Hardware & Gifts, and Vivian Rookstool won the gift certificate toward a meal from Chuck's Little Diner.

Our servers on March 18 included Sandi Rennels, Julia Davis, Pam Howard and Gary Jacobson. One item on the table was homemade horseradish, courtesy of Joe Phippen. And Bruce verified it was hot stuff.

We had grape juice, sliced tomatoes, corned beef and cabbage, roasted potatoes, rolls, and a piña colada ice cream with whipped cream – to cool you off after the horseradish, I guess.

The Blue Mountain Care Center, Lorna and Patty, brought Dorothy Blasing, Lois Hill, Dollina Humphreys, Donna Cox and Robert Riddell. There were 57 names on the registration book.

Table talk was about Ireland. Sandi had a pen pal from Ireland for

years, and always wanted to visit her. Bruce was stationed in England in the '60s while in the Air Force. He took a tour of Ireland one weekend in a rental car. Yes, they drive on the left side in Ireland, too. But he had been in England long enough, so he was used to it. Everywhere he went, people wanted to know if he was related to JFK. As he returned to the dock to get on the ferry back to England, he cut across country on little back roads. People came out just to watch the car go by. You think WE live out in the boondocks.

Derrol had a good exam from his medical professional. Still trying to determine the cause of the dizziness. Several possibilities were explored and tested for. Awaiting results. He's doing much better, but it just won't go completely away. The repaired ankle allows him to walk to the post office anyway, even if he has to take the cane just in case. So that's progress!

Daughter-in-law Laurel went to urgent care last week because the butcher knife slipped and cut her thumb. Took six stitches. Then Sandi showed up with both of her thumbs in stitches. Before that I was informed that Pastor Dave's brother-in-law in Mexico tripped and fell. He ended up with both wrists, a forearm, and rib broken – with a big evangelistic outreach coming up at Easter. We decided he will learn how to delegate responsibility now. "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." Eccl. 3:1.

The next two meals at the hall will be special. Not that every meal isn't, but the next two will be extra special. Don't forget or you will be disappointed.

Isa. 49: 23 "... those who hope in Me will not be disappointed."

Well, on March 19, we had another awesome meal – Greek chicken topped with veggies, whole kernel corn, tossed salad with a choice of dressings, fresh rolls and creamy potato soup. For dessert we had fruit crisp.

Greeting us at the desk were Margaret Glass and Bonnie Kocis. Sharmayne Boethin and Susie Garrison delivered 27 meals in the John Day-Canyon City area.

Members of the United Methodist Church served us. Jean Willey led the flag salute, and Pastor Marcie Collins asked the blessing.

Veanne announced that a former lunch partner of ours has passed away, on Marcy 18. Ruby Oliver was a regular for lunches before she moved to Fossil. We send our condolences to her family.

There were no guests. Richie Colbeth won the Chester's Thriftway gift certificate, and Ben Leuthe won the lunch for two at Valley View.

Thursday, March 26, we will have paella – kind of like Spanish rice, I was told. And on Monday, March 30, it will be pulled-pork sandwiches. Hope to see you there.

Romans 4:21-22 "Abraham was absolutely convinced that God was able to do anything he promised. And because of Abraham's faith, God declared him to be righteous."

Well, one day I went out to water my precious lettuce and carrots, and all I found were stubs of my beautiful lettuce. All the green leaves were gone – nothing left but the stubs. I was so upset and mad, and wondered, "Who ate my lettuce!" All that hard work of watering every day and taking care of it and someone else ate it.

I'll finish my story next week, and let you know who ate it. Oh, the suspense!

We had a nice meal on March 17. I wore green so I wouldn't get pinched, because you know we were celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Our greeters were Bob Blakeslee and Marva Walker. Bob led the flag salute, and yours truly, the blessing over our meal. We had fish and chicken, French fries, homemade tartar sauce, cocktail sauce, coleslaw and fruit cobbler. We always have fresh coffee, iced tea and punch for drinks. Thank you to our great cooks, Terry Cade and Carrie Jewell.

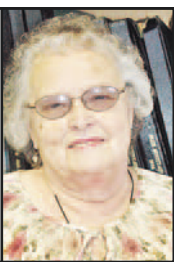
Bob Cockrell won the Chester's Thriftway gift card, Betty Richards won the Len's Drug gift card and Frank Cecil won a free meal. Frank and Melba Cecil from Spray visited us. They just celebrated their 71st anniversary! We also had Larry Burton and Brennan Witty from John Day, and Gail Beverlin from Long Creek join us. We had 43 attendees and five take-outs.

Don't forget next week, the Spring Fling lunch on Friday, March 27. Call Sylvia Cockrell for more information.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John Day Seniors

Alma Jostin



JOHN DAY – On March 16, we had Swai fish fillets, pasta salad, Hollandaise-glazed carrots, cheese bread and for dessert, fruit cocktail and peanut butter cookies. I was out

of town so don't know who was at the desk – sorry. I did hear great reports on the lunch from some of those who attended.

Rick Rhinehart and Nancy Moore delivered the meals. The servers were from the First Christian Church. Jan Ellison led the flag salute, and Cathy Altnow asked the blessing.

Senior programs manager Veanne Weddle announced that no one has claimed the earring she found a couple weeks ago. Check your jewelry, ladies. There will be a dance here, with the UpRiver Country Band, from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, with refreshments and door prizes, too.

Helen Bogart won the Len's Drug gift certificate, and Buz Glass won the free meal.

Monument Seniors

Soo Yuhawa



MONUMENT – It looks like warm weather is upon us. I'm so excited! I'm going to start my little seedlings at the end of the month I think; my wonderful hubby is making me a green house. Maybe my tomatoes will

have a chance to turn red on the vine this year because that's where I'll put them. I didn't have all this room back in California. We had about a 6,400-square lot. Not very big and I had neighbors on both sides, less than 7-feet away.À

I will share an incident – kind of funny, but not funny to me at the time. I might have to leave you suspended till next week's article if it gets a little long.

I had this idea – I get those once in awhile and it always seems a whole lot better in my head – to get these little plastic kiddie pools, drill holes on the bottom, fill it with dirt and make a little garden. I had my friend bring her kids, and our kids planted the seeds. We planted lettuce and carrots, and I watered those kiddie pools for I think almost three months, every day, morning and the evening.

Then, the little lettuce and carrots started coming up. It was quite exciting. The lettuce was really nice and I was thinking soon, very soon, we will be able to harvest and eat it.

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