## Community

**GRANT COUNTY SENIORS** 



MONUMENT – I am still trying to recover from all the festivities of this past weekend. Wow, the Monument Jubilee and Fourth of July celebration was an absolute success!

There was an early morning 5K and 10K run. and a breakfast by the Monument Service Club. The parade was fun to watch with lots of participants as well as bystanders. My kids learned early on they would rather be bystanders, so they can collect all the candy and goodies tossed out. There were games played by kids that ended with a great water balloon fight – which, by the way, was awesome in the heat of the day. They each received a gift certificate for a free ice cream, compliments of Boyer's Store.

The snocone and cotton candy stand was very popular. There was a pie baking contest, with a first prize of \$40, and a watermelon eating contest. I will have to participate next year. There was also a horseshoe tossing contest, talent show, lots of great food and much more.

The finale of the day, of course, was the great fireworks show by Boyer's Store. The whole day was just a great day to remember our nation, the people who sacrificed their lives for our freedom and liberties, and just an all-around memorable family day. There were other events but I don't remember them all and there's not enough room in this article. If you weren't there, you missed out. But hey, there is always next year, so mark your calendar to plan to attend the Monument Jubilee

in 2016. Our June 30 senior lunch had quite the turnout -77attendees and 21 take-outs. I'm guessing people really like chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and the super yummy and moist chocolate birthday cake. Our cooks were Terry Cade and Heather Bowlus. David Stubblefield won the Len's Drug gift card, and Robert Jordan won a free meal. We had visitors from Spray -Marvin and Louise Britt. Marva Walker's family also visited - Calla Frances Frazier from Siloam Springs, Ark., and Teresa Walker from Redmond. Our greeters were Bob Blakeslee, Bodean Anderson and Marva Walker. Bob led the flag salute, and Bodean prayed blessing over our the meal.

I think I can finally start enjoying summer since there are no more big events or activities planned. My family and I are really looking forward to taking our dogs and going swimming in the river. I will get to boast to my friends in California that I got to really float down a real river. I'm laughing out loud because you can't do that in California.

Proverbs 30:5 "Every word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."



JOHN DAY – On June 29, we had about 38 diners for another great meal. Some of you who don't come on Mondays sure are missing out on some good lunches. We had Swedish meatballs with noodles/gravy, spinach salad that was the best I've ever eaten, green beans with mushrooms, French bread, and yummy lemon bars that Lisa made for dessert.

Margaret Glass and Gloria Kulis were at the desk. Rick and Becky Rhinehart delivered 24 meals plus 17 frozen ones to shut-ins. Senior programs manager Veanne Weddle helped with the Mt. Vernon route. Veanne has several housebound clients in Mt. Vernon and while delivering meals down there, she checks on these people's welfare.

Rick Rhinehart led the flag salute, and Pastor Al Altnow asked the blessing. Our servers were from First Christian Church.

Veanne announced it was National Meteorite Day, which is why the menu called the meatballs meteorite balls. She also announced Gloria Kulis is ending her service on the Site Council after 10 years. She introduced Pastor Al Altnow as one of the new members.

Janice Hunt, from Long Creek, won the Len's Drug certificate, and Robert Riddell, from Blue Mountain Care Center, won the free meal.

On July 2, we had a "Fourth of July picnic," and it was all good – good turnout, good food, good fellowship. The only thing missing was the ants. Shay fixed barbecued chicken legs and thighs, macaroni salad, green salad with homemade Thousand Island dressing, com on the cob, dinner rolls and watermelon slices. Lisa fixed a chocolate mousse for dessert. The site council fixed little cups of candies – red and blue licorice, and white sugar candies. Wow – what a picnic. The birthday girl, Helen Bogart, furnished the entrée in memory of Ken.

We had about 60 diners. Jim Spell delivered 28 meals plus eight frozen ones to shut-ins. Veanne delivered to the Mt. Vernon area. Our servers were from St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Dennis Reynolds led the flag salute, and Julie Reynolds asked the blessing.

Veanne announced it was Dale Stennett's birthday, and Helen's on July 4, and Usa's on July 5.

Thursday, July 9, will be our luau. Wear your Hawaiian outfits, grass skirts and all. If you are up to it we will let you entertain us.

Veanne thanked the Bingo players for their patience while the lunch cleanup takes place. And Nancy Elliott announced the fruit stand is now open on Thursdays at the Nugget Lanes parking lot.

Victor Pike joined his wife, Lola, for the first time, and drew the winning numbers for us. I won the Chester's Thriftway gift certificate, and Marianne Morris won the lunch for two at Valley View.

All of you who came, please come back. It's nice to see the place so full, and just think – you didn't have to heat up your house.

On July 9, we'll have Caribbean pork, baked sweet potatoes, glazed carrots and birthday cake for dessert. Monday, July 13, we'll have Italian stuffed peppers, oven fries, cottage cheese, and tomato salad and combread. Dessert will be a surprise.

Matthew 1:23 "They shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God is with us."



PRAIRIE CITY – Hot enough for ya? Thank God for air conditioning and fans – and the electricity to run them.

Have to tell you my having story from the 1960s when it got up to 105 degrees. I was driving the little Ford 8N tractor pulling the side-delivery rake. Think this was the first tractor with the motor exhaust pipe under the foot rest and not straight up through the top of the motor hood. That way you didn't breathe the exhaust. A great design for winter - kept your feet warm, at least one, anyway. But in summer, it made for a good case of "hot foot." So every time I made a circuit of the hay field, I'd stop, get off and make a fast pass through the water in the little drain ditch to cool off. Even dip my straw hat in and plop it back on my head to cool off. Ah, yes. The good old days. Now? Air-conditioned cabs with stereo!

I had my morning all planned out – irrigate, write column, work on music. Then neighbor Marnie gave me a half-gallon of strawberries that needed to be taken care of. As I was working on those, neighbor Joe called to say he was bringing over a bag of lettuce. So after the strawberries, did the lettuce. Now to the column.

We had a bang-up Fourth of July dinner on July 1. Pam Howard brought over patriotic centerpieces, and blue and red table covers. The setter-uppers did nine tables and we filled them.

Helen and Donna did a great job on this special meal. We had a "cook-out" of hamburgers and all the condiments, potato salad, corn on the cob, watermelon, and red, white, and blue cupcakes with white frosting covered with red and blue sprinkles.

Was great to see Ralph and Ivan Nance and their four guests. Other first-timers were Terry and Billie Jo George, and Howard and Frances Preston. One of those couples has moved back to Prairie City after being away for years. If they return to seniors, maybe I'll find out who?

Buzz led the flag salute, and Bob Meador asked the blessing. Our servers included Gary Jacobson, Sandi Rennels, Veanne Weddle, Dusty Harris, Joe Phippen and Linda Boyer. Del and Bonnie helped clean up. Lois Bidasolo won the gift certificate from Prairie Hardware and Gifts. Another visitor whom we were glad to see was Chris Labhart.

The Blue Mountain Care Center ladies, Lorna and Jonie, brought Dorothy Blasing, Lois Hill and Donna Cox. We had 90 names on the book.

The Grange and the Seniors are trying to determine the ownership of certain items that have been left in the building – some for years. There are a lot of yard sale leftovers that were never removed. If you want to reclaim it, speak now or forever hold your peace. You have been warned.

I Thess. 5:14 "... brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the faint-hearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all."

