

OUT OF THE PAST

75 years ago

C. of C. entertains football champions with turkey banquet

A turkey banquet was held in honor of the state "B" championship football team, the Grant Union high school Prospectors and their coach, Tommy Johnson, in conjunction with the regular weekly meeting of the John Day Chamber of Commerce at the Scout hall, Monday evening.

The president, W. Glen Chandler, acted as a toastmaster and called upon Mayor W. B. Prophet, A. H. Haberly, superintendent of Grant High, Coach Johnson and others, as well as the senior class football boys for short talks. The boys were highly praised for their remarkable record and especially for their sportsmanlike conduct both on and off the football field. Coach Johnson stated that this was his first state championship team in his 10 years of coaching, and he added, "considering not only playing ability but also sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct, it is the best bunch of boys I have ever

had under my supervision."

Stan Phillips, captain of the Grant team, as well as the other players who spoke, expressed appreciation to the chamber group as well as all businessmen and others from outlying districts who have so generously supported the team this season.

25 years ago

Christmas bazaar is set to go!

More than 60 area craftspeople will offer their handmade items for sale Saturday during the Annual Christmas Bazaar sponsored by members of the Blue Mountain Hospital District Auxiliary.

The bazaar will be held at the Trowbridge Pavilion at the Grant County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year's Christmas bazaar marks a milestone of sorts — it will be the 20th anniversary for an annual event that has grown to become synonymous with the holiday shopping and gift-giving season in Grant County.

The origin of the auxiliary's annual fundraising project dates back to 1973 when



Eagle file photo

From Dec. 2, 1993: The holiday season got an official start Saturday with the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus, James Moran and Jeanette Walker, during the Christmas Magic Parade hosted by the John Day Merchant's Association.

members opted to stage a flea market at the Alec Gay Hall, and although their first endeavor was largely a success, the flea market concept bombed the following year.

Looking at their strategy, auxiliary members decided to drop the concept of a flea market, and decided instead to concentrate on homemade and handcrafted items.

It was a marriage made

in heaven, and as the saying goes, the rest is history.

The annual bazaar soon outgrew the confines of the Alec Gay Hall and moved to the senior center. Soon too large for that location, it moved to the fairgrounds where Saturday it again will offer a wide assortment of items ideal for everyone's holiday shopping needs.

10 years ago

Ho, ho, ho – Stores dress up with holiday sales

The merchants' mantra this Christmas shopping season is similar on every corner in the community: "Shop local."

Although the local economy is in a slump this year, store owners remain hopeful for a good holiday turnout and that customers will check out their bargains before heading out of town or online.

"I'm keeping the prices as low as I can because of the economy," said Canyon Creek Candle Company owner Tina Stearly in John Day.

A new item will be on her store shelves next week.

With the big state football win for Grant Union High School, she's designed a new State Championship candle to celebrate the event.

A football and cheerleading uniform display celebrating the Prospectors football season can be seen as customers walk through the front door of Mountains Department Store.

Last weekend's football games — the Prospectors at

the state championships, and the annual Civil War between the UO Ducks and the OSU Beavers — had manager Troy Thomas a little worried that local shoppers might be lured to big-city stores when they traveled to catch the games.

"It's a catch-22 for retailers," he said.

He says business is down by about 12 percent this year, but he still anticipates a decent season, "even though gas prices are going down."

One difficulty he's facing now is a requirement to pay up front for shipments of clothing, instead of having 30 days to pay for them. Because of this he's ordering in smaller batches.

He's encouraging shoppers to call ahead to find out when the next shipment comes in.

"It's first-come, first-served," he said.

Santa will visit Mountains Dec. 13 to have pictures taken with the children, courtesy of Saul Productions, and there will be Arbonne makeup tips by Debi Mecham of Prairie City — both events are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SENIOR Outlook



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Prairie City Seniors

Rose Coombs



As I write this it is only 30 days until Christmas. Going to have to get up in the attic and go thru the items that I have been accumulating all year. So Black Friday, Cyber Monday, or like-

mind sales spiels hold no charms for me. Sometimes I am surprised by what I've squirreled away for Christmas distribution... Oh, yeah. I forgot about buying that at that yard sale. I did walk through all the Christmas on the Prairie offerings, so I tried!

We had one glitch in our family Thanksgiving dinner — the Portland contingent did not get to come due to the grandchildren catching colds on Tuesday night. So — thanks to the miracle of the World Wide Web — they attended via Skype. Isn't that something? Agata chats with her parents in Poland quite often using Skype. When I think of all the immigrants of the past who had to wait for months for word from overseas, I am so thankful that she can have this electronic connection. So daughter-in-law made roast beef, baked ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and bacon, carrots and beets (for me), and green salad (for which I furnished five bottles of varied dressings). Joel smoked a turkey and the in-laws from Lexington brought desserts and other condiments. Michael baked a huge apple pie to add to the occasion; a good time was had by all.

After dinner, Mrs. Temple and I began the task of teaching Joel how

to play pinochle. She played 40 years ago with her grandparents but did not like the game because she was never able to win. We got through a short game and she won by 10 points!

The best response I heard to the question "What are you thankful for?" was this: my dog, my job and my boyfriend. Take note of the order and think about that.

Joel has been working all over the Grant County hinterland. We commented that he left the asphalt canyons of Portland for the gravel canyons of Grant County. He had a job out at the ol' ranch, and said it was really weird to go back there to see the changes that have taken place in the intervening years. The frustrating thing is that when people find out that he was born and raised here, they expect him to know people and places and things that happened when he was not here; but he's getting up to speed on all that. He has been to places in Grant County in the last six months that we haven't been to in the last 60 years! Which brings to mind the saying "Don't get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life."

The last I heard, dinner will be lasagna and green salad with garlic bread on Nov. 28. The FFA banquet and auction during Christmas on the Prairie really had the ol' hall decked out. Good job Lindy, Debbie and company.

There will be a board meeting on Nov. 28 as well. So if you are on the board, please be in attendance.

Act 2:46 (The Message) "They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple, followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful..."

John Day Seniors

Nicky Essex



Monday, Nov. 19, we have closed out our second successful silent auction, with the plan to begin our next one in a few days with some Christmas items! We need to collect for the last sales first and then start a new one. I have given my

notice to stop writing this column the last week in December and we are still looking for someone to take over. It has been a joy for me to do, helping me get acquainted here and I have only had a couple of corrections requested, where I have deserved many more! There is lots of help if you need it; call Veane if interested at 541-575-1825. Bonnie Kocis and Ron Dowse were our greeters today, and our table service was provided by First Christian Church, Karen Barrieta, Jan Ellison and Ron and Roberta Dowse. Home meal deliveries were all made by our great friends from Step Forward, led by David Gill and his sidekick, Rodney, with a total of 34 regular and 55 frozen meals delivered to Canyon City, John Day and Mt. Vernon. Thanks to all of our dear volunteers for supporting our Senior Center! Yog Harris opened our time together by leading us in the pledge to our flag. Carol Roe won the Len's Drug gift card, Bruce Kaufman won the free meals and Ron led us in the blessing for our meal. We enjoyed Shay's super spaghetti, with veggies,

spinach salad, baguettes and a wonderful Oregon blend berry cobbler! We were closed here on Thanksgiving Day, and I have lots of space left to fill, so I'd like to say how thankful I am for this wonderful place and all of those who began it and have kept it going! We started coming for lunch about three to three and a half years ago after a terrible death in our family, followed by a terrible medical diagnosis for my husband. I was having trouble recovering emotionally and wasn't finding any real help. We found friends here slowly, because most of the people didn't know us and I was a wounded soul, not sure if I wanted to stick around. Little by little, I felt more at home here than anywhere else, and really enjoyed the fellowship; a word I use for spiritual friendships, and that is what I have found. It doesn't matter what your religious history, there are people who have all struggled in life, and find unfettered friendship here with very little discrimination and lots of humor and acceptance. If you give us a chance, we'll help you settle in here and love you. We will be moving in late spring, and it will be hard to leave those who have stretched out to be our friends! Thank you, so much, you all know who you are.

Next Thursday, Nov. 29, we will enjoy mac and cheese with ham and a three-bean salad.
 John 8:12 NIV *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Monument Seniors

Soo Yukawa



Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We had a simple meal at home and it was very low key. Only had a couple of friends and we just had a simple meal and visited for a few hours.

For our Nov. 20 meal, Terry Cade and Teawna Jewell made us a nice meal of cornbread and chili, fresh green salad, canned pear slices and some yummy cinnamon rolls.

Our greeters were Jimmy Cole, Linda Blakeslee, Kristi Guimont and Bodean Andersen. Jimmy and Linda collected and counted the money, Kristi checked in the guests, Bodean led us in the flag salute, made the announcements and prayed the blessing over our meal.

We had 33 guests present and four takeouts. Lonny and Brian Davis, from Mount Vernon, joined us for lunch. The Len's Drug gift card was given to Roger Lawrence. Judy Cavender and Jackie Sweek were the lucky winners for a free meal.

Betty Richards had a fall the previous week and was in the hospital in John Day. We pray that she would recover completely and quickly; Donna Campbell was also in the hospital. We had Get Well Soon cards for Betty and Donna.

Since Betty is out of commission at the moment, Kristi is currently in charge of the rental of the senior center rooms. If you would like to book

the senior center, please give her a call at 541-934-2021.

Well, I went to Bingo for the last Saturday of November; I stunk. I even got to stay for the whole time and I did not win even once. I came oh so very close a few times at winning but I still had lots of fun and I came home with a very full tummy. Apparently, I need to get there way early to pick the "good cards," not going to happen. LOL. I know I say this every year but really, Christmas is literally around the corner! I am guessing my friends who are really attentive and organized will be sending out their Christmas cards very soon. It almost seems like they have their cards all ready and waiting to send out right after Thanksgiving. Those people seriously have way too much time on their hands.

This week, I discovered a couple of fascinating YouTube channels. One was this woman, and I think she lives in Thailand; she walks around barefoot, carrying a basket with a clay plate, clay bowl, pestle and mortar, dried chili and spices. She goes hunting for all kinds of stuff like crickets, frogs and cicadas, to name a few. She then makes a fire, puts the clay plate on the fire with some oil and cooks whatever she found. After that, she makes a spicy sauce with the pestle and then eats it. I don't know why I torture myself, I shouldn't be watching this when I'm hungry because even those cicadas look good to me! I know, ewww. The other intriguing shows were these Asian women totally changing their look with makeup from homely to beautiful; quite amazing.

John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

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