

GRANT COUNTY SENIORS

John Day Seniors

Elsie Huskey



On Monday before Christmas, Greg Starr was greeting folks as they entered the building for lunch. Amongst his chuckles and friendly smile, the day started pleasantly. Veanne was the announcer today. The flag salute was said, and then Veanne reminded everyone of the Christmas dinner on Christmas day starting at noon at no charge to anyone. She shocked us with the news that Drew Harmer had passed away so unexpectedly. We had a moment of silence to remember Drew and say a word of prayer for him. Several drawings were done and the blessing was prayed and lunch was served by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We had fish and crosscut crispy potatoes, coleslaw, drinks of our choice and a yummy dessert. Thanks to Shay and his crew for a nice meal.

On Thursday, the day after Christmas, Darlene Nodine and Jeanette Julsrud were at the desk to greet everyone for lunch. It is so nice to come into a gathering and be greeted with smiles and a comment and/or chuckles. Jeanette did the announcing with her usual flare and gave everyone reason to smile and giggle a bit. Thanks, Jeanette, for making everyone so comfortable. Jimmy Maples led the flag salute.

The bridge club sponsored the meal for today. Thanks were given to Doc Pope for a generous donation to our senior center. Thanks were given to the Palmers for once

again providing a lovely gracious Christmas dinner to our whole community. We were told that this was the 20th year they have done this Christmas dinner. Thank you again, Palmers, for this wonderful event.

Jan. 9 will be the annual hall board meeting for our senior center. There are three positions open so if you or anyone you know would like to run for these positions, let Chris Labhart know and plan to attend this meeting. They are giving away over \$1,000 worth of door prizes at this meeting so this should entice many of us to attend. Besides that, it is good to know how our senior center operates and all the details for its success.

The site council also needs members of its board so give it some thought and help them out.

Starting Jan. 1, there will be no plastic bags any more at our grocery or other stores so those of us that use these bags at home or to transport items will need to provide our own bags. The senior center uses these bags to transport the meals that we deliver to citizens all over the area. Veanne made a plea for help with this. Please help with donations of any kind of nice bags for this project.

Thirty-five fresh meals were delivered by Jimmy Maples, Barb, Comer and the Step Forward crew. Thanks, everyone. This effort is so much appreciated.

Lon Davis won the Chester's Thriftway certificate, and Kristina Labhart won the free meal.

Father Christie asked the blessing and also sang us a Christmas song in his native language and in English. Thanks to him for bringing this enjoyment to us. St. Eliz-

abeth Catholic Church served our meal to 24 in-house diners. The meal consisted of hot roast beef sandwiches on sourdough, real mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean medley and a very yummy fruit and whipped cream mixture on graham cracker crust. Thanks, Shay, for a lovely meal.

As Father Christie said: "Christmas is not a day, it is a season. We are always grateful that God gave us his son Jesus and that is what Christmas is about."

Monument Seniors

Soo Yukawa



I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. Can you believe that it will be 2020, when you read this? 2019 seems like a blur because it feels like it went by so fast to me. This also will mark our sixth winter here in Monument. My two little ones have lived more of their lives now in Monument than in California.

We did not have a lunch for Christmas Eve, so I have no report to share. It was weird not having lunch to go to, and it threw my days of the week off. I guess I am sometimes a creature of habit.

A bunch of my ladies from my Bible study group and some of our kids made a visit to Haven House retirement home in Fossil before Christmas. We went there and ate lunch with the folks. We sang some Christmas songs, and some hymns. We also sat and visited with them. It was such a nice time, and we praise the Lord for the privilege of serving him. We plan on making it a regular visit every month or every other

month. We need to remember our elders and not neglect them. We need to honor them, spend time with them and love them.

My wonderful hubby has been helping me by doing the early morning chores for me and most of the afternoon chores as well. I am so lucky, right? We did go out and banded little Douglas. He is all set not to be a stinky goat. Ha.

I love my little Lily. She still remembers me, and when I am at the goat pen, she follows me around and wants to sit on my lap. Oh, she is so cute, and I just love her! I thought I loved Bonnie, but no, Lily is really, really special to me. She is getting a pretty big pooch. Since she is the only one that Jill is nursing, Lily is getting quite chubby around her middle. I think it will be really easy for me to bring Lily up near my house and have her follow me around in the spring and summer. Maybe she still thinks of me as her mama?

I think Dolly is pregnant. I don't think she will be due for at least a couple of months. I don't know, maybe she is just a bloated goat. I am keeping an eye on her. Since I have the girls separated from the boys, the boys will not stray very far from the girls' pen. The boys are constantly looking forlornly at the girls. Too bad, so sad for them.

It is very fun sitting with the goats and watching the little ones play. They are quite amusing to watch when they are running and hopping and kicking up their little hind legs. Daisy, Douglas and Lily like to come over and either sit on my lap, chew on my coat, nibble my gloves, or jump on my back. Ah, the country life.

*1 Corinthians 4:20 "For the Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power."*

OUT OF THE PAST

10 Years Ago

Having a Ball — Firemen's Ball Raises Money while having fun

A New Year's Eve Firemen's Ball rang in 2009 at the Mt Vernon Community helped last week and helped raise money for emergency equipment the department needs.

The wish list included pumps, saws, radios and wildland fireman clothing — a necessity for fighting wilderness fires the district faces in the summer months. Fire Chief Bill Cearn says the Mt. Vernon Fire Department, established in 1948, currently has a good core of 10-12 volunteers, but more are always needed. "It takes a commitment from someone to go to school," he said. Currently a Firefighter I class is being held in John Day and in February a training will be held in Long Creek.

In the spring, Grant/Harney Training Association will offer raining for entry level volunteers with weekend classes held in Long Creek and Hines. This training is required for firefighters to enter a house fire.

Cearn says the biggest fire-starter problems for houses he sees are wood stoves and candles. Then in the summer time their biggest "nemesis" is burn barrels and people burning when they shouldn't be. "Lightning is another one," he said. "We get quite a few of them — more than other districts in our area." One of the department's stations holds five wildland pickups and the ambulance. Another station on Widows Creek has a structure engine, one wildland engine and one tender (a water tank truck).

The new station has three structure engines, one medium rescue, a tender and a portable self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) compressor and fill station within a trailer — this fills the air tanks the firefighters use to breath then they are surrounded by smoke. The Fire Defense Board, which includes all Grant County fire chiefs, Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the Malheur National Forest (MNF), owns the SCBA station and places it in Mt. Vernon because of its central location, Cearn says.

He welcomes the future U.S Forest Service fire base, to be built as part of the Grant County Regional Airport terminal project in John Day. His department works closely with ODF and MNF, and they help each other under mutual aid agreements. Two fires on Aldrich Mountain last year required some outside assistance due to the steep terrain inaccessible to equipment, Cearn said. He enlisted the help of MNF rappellers for those jobs, and smoke jumpers worked on another fire.

On Dec. 31, any worries about fires were put on hold while about 100 people attended the Firemen's Ball, held at the community hall where renovations were completed last summer. Cearn hopes to see the ball an annual event. "That way there's something to do in the wintertime," he said.

**John Day Valley Mennonite Church**  
Meeting every Sunday at Mt. Vernon Grange Hall  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship...10:50 a.m.  
Pastor Leland Smucker  
**Everyone Welcome • 541-932-2861**

**Historic Remnant Church**  
Preparing for Jesus to come  
Meets Saturday at Mt. Vernon Grange Sabbath School.....9:30 am  
Church Services.....11:00 am  
**541-620-0340**

**VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
KJV Independent  
Fundamental • Premillennial  
Terence K. Crabb, Pastor  
A Bible-believing Church  
"He that hath the Son hath life..." 1 John 5:12  
Sunday School 9:45 am • Sunday Preaching 11:00 am  
Junior Church 11:00 am • Sunday Evenings 3:30 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study & Master Club 7:00 pm  
Saturday Men's Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
108 S. Washington Street, Canyon City  
541-575-2688 or 541-575-0844

**St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church**  
Corner of S Canyon Blvd and SW 2nd  
Mon. - Fri. Mass - 12:05 pm  
Saturday Mass - 5:00 pm  
Sunday Mass - 9:00 am  
Holy Days Mass: Noon & 6 pm  
Confession: Saturday 4:00-4:45 pm  
Anytime by appointment  
541-974-8638  
**St. Anne**  
Monument -  
2nd and 4th Sundays at 12:30 pm  
**Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 Noon

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
SATURDAY SERVICES  
JOHN DAY  
110 Valley View Dr.  
541-575-1216  
Head Elder.....541-575-2914  
Bible Classes (all ages).....9:30 am  
Worship.....11 am  
LONG CREEK  
E. Main Street  
541-421-3033  
Head Elder.....421-3468  
Bible Classes (all ages).....2 pm  
Worship.....3 pm

**Prairie Baptist Church**  
238 N. McHaley St., Prairie City • 541-820-3696  
www.prairie-baptist-church.com  
Pastor David Hoeffner  
Pastor Keith  
Sunday School (all ages).....9:00 a.m.  
Sunday morning worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Awana (Oct-Apr.).....3:00 p.m.  
Youth Group.....5:30 p.m.

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
Morning Prayer.....10 am  
(1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
Eucharist & Sunday School.....10 am  
(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
139 S. Washington, Canyon City  
**541-620-1436**

**New Life Bible Church**  
2 Corinthians 5:17  
Every Sunday in the L.C. Community Center (Corner of Second & Allen)  
Contact Pastor Ed Studtmann at 541-421-3888 • Begins at 4:00pm

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School..... 10 am  
Church.....11 am  
Afternoon Service..... 2 pm  
No Mid-week Services  
**Pastor Jesse Gosnell**  
300 W. Main, John Day  
**541-575-1355**

**Living Word Christian Center**  
Hwy 26 Mt. Vernon  
Celebration of Worship  
Sundays 5:30pm  
Youth: 0-6th grade  
Midweek Service  
Thursdays 6:30pm  
Youth: 0-6th grade  
Jr./Sr. High Youth Connection  
Contact the office for current schedule  
Overcomer's Outreach  
Fridays 6:30pm  
House on the Lawn  
A Christ Centered, 12 Step Recovery Support Group  
**Pastor Sharon Miller**  
541-932-4910  
www.livingwordcc.com

**3ABN**  
Three Angels Broadcasting Network  
TV & Radio Networks  
Tune into KSPL 98.1 FM  
Valley View Broadcasting  
PO Box 151, Mt Vernon, Or 97865  
Antenna: Digital Channel 15  
Blue Mountain Cable Channel 2

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Come Worship with us at  
627 SE Hillcrest, John Day  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Worship/Communion.....10am  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Worship/Communion/Potluck...4:30pm  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship .....10 am  
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....6 pm  
For information: 541-575-2348

**MT. VERNON PRESBYTERIAN Community Church**  
SUNDAY SERVICE.....9 am  
541-932-4800  
EVERYONE WELCOME

**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
Sunday School.....9:30 am  
Sunday Worship Service.....10:45 am  
Sunday Evening Service.....6:00 pm  
Children & Teen Activities  
SMALL GROUPS CALL FOR MORE INFO  
Weekdays: Sonshine Christian School  
Pastor Randy Johnson  
521 E. Main • John Day • 541-575-1895  
www.johndaynazarene.com

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Sunday School.....9:45 am  
Sunday Worship.....11 am  
Fox Community Church.....3 pm  
Sunday Evening Bible talk.....6 pm  
Saturday Men's Study.....6 pm  
Full Gospel- Come Grow With Us  
541-575-1202 Church  
311 NE Dayton St, John Day  
Pastor Al Altnow

**JOHN DAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship • 9AM  
(541) 575-1326  
johndayUMC@gmail.com  
126 NW Canton, John Day  
Food Pantry Friday 3-4p.m.  
Like us on Facebook!

**Cornerstone Christian Fellowship**  
139 N.E. DAYTON STREET, JOHN DAY  
541-575-2180  
Sunday Worship Service 10 am  
Sunday Youth Group 3 pm  
Thursday Celebrate Recovery 6 pm  
Pastor Levi Manitsas  
cornerstonejohnday@gmail.com  
ccfd.org