

## OUT OF THE PAST

## 75 years ago

**Dr. J. H. Fell passes after half a century benefiting mankind**

Dr. J. H. Fell, 80, dean of the medical profession in Grant County, and one of the best-known physicians of the state, died Sunday afternoon at the home of his son, George Fell, near John Day, after a lingering illness. Although he had been in failing health for several years, he has practiced almost continuously, maintaining his office in his home at Canyon City, and even in his last illness, when he was bed-fast, patients came to him for medical advice.

Joshua Harlan Fell was born in Bloomington, Illinois, December 21, 1863, where he attended high school and Illinois Wesleyan University. During his early life he became interested in medicine and spent considerable time in his brothers' pharmacy in Bloomington. He came to Morrow County, Oregon, in the early eighties where, for a time, he was associated with his father and brothers in the sheep

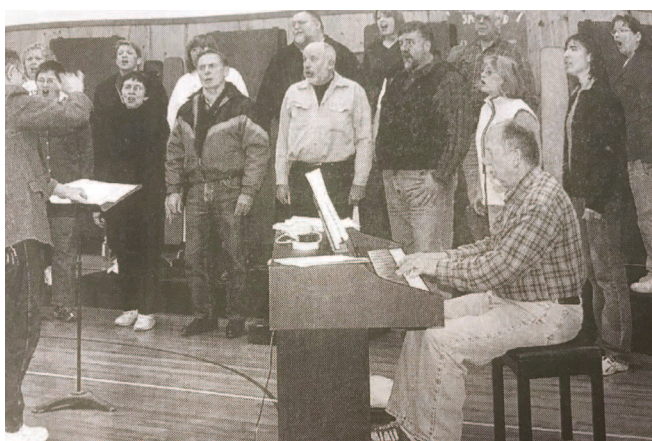
business. It was during this period that he began to study medicine very seriously under his uncle, the late Dr. Fox of Heppner, Oregon, as a preceptor. After several years of study he matriculated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, Illinois, from which school he graduated in 1889. Later in the same year he arrived in Grant County to take up the practice of medicine and has practiced his profession throughout the county since that time.

In 1891, he was united in marriage to Mary Inez McHaley who preceded him in death in 1923. He is survived by his son, George E. Fell of Canyon City, a brother Walter P. Fell of Eugene, Oregon, and a number of nieces and nephews, as well as a host of friends throughout the state.

When a young man, Dr. Fell made several trips throughout the South Seas and the Orient as a ship's surgeon.

He was a member of the Episcopal church, and the Elks lodge.

Funeral services were held from the Driskill Mor-



Eagle file photo

**From Jan. 20, 2009: Ed Carwithen conducts the Juniper Singers while Markku Sario accompanies the group on the keyboard.**

tuary chapel in John Day on Tuesday afternoon, conducted by the Rev. Arthur Beckwith, vicar of the Burns and Canyon City Episcopalian churches. Interment was at Pendleton, in the Fell family plot where Mrs. Fell is buried.

## 50 years ago

**Knox move plans are confirmed**

E. L. Knox Co., a John Day landmark since 1907, will pass from the Main Street scene this spring.

Henry (Hank) Gohring, who has operated the family-owned department, general merchandise and variety business since 1951, confirmed recurring rumors of recent weeks that the company would close its John Day store.

Gohring said the company plans to open a new variety store in Heppner. Headquarters for the company will be in Hermiston, where the firm now operates a variety store. A variety store in Burns is the third member of the chain.

"We figured our chances for expansion were greater in the area we're going into," Gohring said. With the closing of the John Day store, he added, the firm's merchandise will be exclusively of the variety type.

The firm got its start about the turn of the century when E. L. Knox, who died in 1959 at age 89, started a general store in Mitchell in adjacent Wheeler County. Knox moved about 1900 to Antone before coming to John Day in 1907 to form a combination hardware-general store business with W. H. Johnson. Johnson's sons built the Knox store building in 1902.

The company continued to sell groceries and dry goods until 1947, when the grocery part of the business was sold to Chester's Market, John Day, which is now located diagonally across East Main Street.

The Knoxes acquired a general store in Dayville in the late 1920s or early 1930s and continued to operate it until March 1967, when the business, now known as Ripa's Mercantile, was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Don Ripa.

Four years earlier, in April 1963, the company purchased the store in Burns. The newest and largest Hermiston store was purchased in September 1967.

Theron Knox, a son of E. L. Knox, joined his father in a partnership in 1922 and continued in the business until he was incapacitated by a heart attack in 1951. Gohring, who is married to Theron's daughter, Anne, moved to John Day in 1951 from Yakima, Wn., to take over active operation of the business.

Gohring began his retail career in McMinnville in 1936 in a grocery store, moving later to Sheridan and Hillsboro. He switched to the dry goods business in 1942.

Besides surviving severe economic conditions in the county through the years, Knoxes' store rallied from a disastrous fire in February 1957 and opened again two months later with all new merchandise.

Gohring said the firm will cease its operations no later than May 1 and will start its closing-out sales in mid-February. Both families will move to Hermiston.

# SENIOR Outlook



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## Prairie City Seniors

Rose Coombs



We inaugurated a new program today: the entrée donation. An anonymous donor paid for the meat for our meal in memory of Blaine Kendall. If you would like to be a part of this new endeavor, please

give us a call. The purchase of the entrée could be for any reason, so don't feel constrained. Anyway, the meat was sticky chicken wings, and they were really good! Along with it was an Italian pasta salad, rice, fruit and a chocolate chip cookie. Now, if you examine that menu, you will notice that it was a multi-national meal served right here in little old Prairie City; how about that? There were 58 people that enjoyed it either in the Hall or at their home.

Drew Harmer led the flag salute and Tom Roark asked the blessing. The table that got to go through the serving line first had to answer the question of what was Frosty the Snowman's nose made of? All the tables had snowmen (wishful thinking) with carrots for noses; our table had the special one that had a 'button' nose. Whee. Tom has a lot of fun figuring out these special table centerpieces.

We had lots of fun playing pinochle. The word is getting out so, if you want to play, come on down – or up, as the case may be.

The winner of the gift certificate donated by Chuck's Little Diner was

Leone Meador. Larry and Carlos took care of the home deliveries.

We want to extend our condolences to faithful volunteer Fran Bunch. Our prayers are with you.

We are also the recipient of a new food processor donated by the Pickle family; thanks a million. I know the kitchen crew really appreciates it.

Lorna and Krystin brought Marilyn Randall, Mary Crawford and Charlene Dean from the Blue Mountain Care Center.

We had a visit from Angel Carpenter, too. She came to do an interview with the Tai Chi lady, Crish. See, things happen in this building!

We finally got the YAP concert accomplished. It was two months late, but it got put on in fine style. All the participants did great, and there was a large turnout for this show. There will be another one May 10, so if you missed this one don't worry! We want to thank the United Methodist Church for the use of their facilities to put on these programs; we really appreciate it. I want to thank all those who brought refreshment goodies; they were outstanding! A good time was had by all. New classes will begin Feb. 12. We did recruit two more chimers! More would be good, though. If each player only has two chimes, it makes it a lot easier to do the music. I think we each had four chimes to keep track of. Gets exciting sometimes!

Ex. 28:31-35 "Make the robe of... blue cloth... Make pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn around the hem of the robe, with gold bells between them... the sound of the bells will be heard when he enters the Holy Place..."

## John Day Seniors

Dusty Harris



Brrr, make this cold weather go away! I'm pretty sure I can speak for all of us when I say we are tired of the cold, dreary days that have taken hold of the town. On Jan. 14 our greeters were Ron and

Dave who graciously welcomed our diners. Table service was provided by the Redeemer Lutheran Church; thank you for being so helpful and always serving with a smile! Bonnie and Francis delivered our meals to John Day and Mt. Vernon today; 40 regular and 40 frozen! Our winner of the Len's Drug gift card was Grace Francis and Nancy won the two free lunches. Nadine fixed hoagies with all the trimmings, chips, spinach tortellini soup and cinnamon rolls.

Jeanette and Everett manned the greeter's desk on Jan. 17 while Linda and Dennis Dickerson delivered the 43 meals. Sherry and her crew from

Ye Olde Thrift Shop were our servers and we thank them very much.

The winner of two ceramic cats went to Amy Rude and Ray Rickerd. The free meal donated by Valley View Assisted Living went to Balbina Escudero who split it with Veanne; thank you for being so generous! The ladies from the First Christian Church joined us for lunch, which was such a delight.

Lunch was anonymously donated in the name of Curtis Pereira; his wife and some of the family came to have lunch with us. People have been so kind and generous lately and we couldn't be more happy and thankful to live in such a wonderful community. Lunch consisted of bacon wrapped meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans with bacon, rolls and blueberry peach tarts for dessert. Overall it was extremely delicious; good job kitchen crew!

I think we are all waiting for spring and warmer weather!

Song of Solomon 2:11-12 "For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the Earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land."

## Monument Seniors

Soo Yukawa



Our cooks, Terry Cade and Teawna Jewell, cooked us a bunch of different, and yummy, pizzas. We also got fresh green salad and tapioca pudding with whipped cream for dessert. We thank our cooks for

cooking up our lunch! We had 40 guests on the books and five takeouts.

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.

The winners of the free meal tickets were Dennis Abraham and Terry Bowlus and the winner for the Len's Drug gift card was Christian Yukawa.

Here is an announcement of change: the North Fork Café and Espresso Bar will be open Wednesday through Sunday; the hours are slightly changed also. They are working to get a phone line put in to handle the to-go orders.

Praise the Lord, we got some more rain that came our way! The only thing I'm not too fond of is the gooey, slippery mud. I will just count the blessing of the moisture we are receiving.

Well, to continue the story of the found dog, I put him in our kennel. I didn't know what else to do with him. I called all around and nobody

knew who he belonged to. He was looking a little sad too; I was getting kind of worked up about what to do with him. Somebody surely loved and took care of him he just looked too nice.

Well a few hours later, there was a knock at the door. Hallelujah! It was the owner. Apparently, the dog (whose name turned out to be Samson) was up nearby with his owner doing some work on that ranch and took off on him. He said he had taken off Samson's collar so he wouldn't get hung up. Boy, was Samson sure glad to see his owner! I think, secretly, I was more ecstatic that I didn't have to keep another dog. Ha! The owner was going around knocking at the neighbors' places looking for his dog. Since I called around, one of my neighbors directed him to our place. Whew, that was a relief.

I'm still waiting for Jill to have little kids. I'm pretty sure she is going to have twins again, if not triplets. I don't know if she is just fluffy or fat right now. LOL. I'm pretty sure that the gestation time for goats is five and a half months. She was with the two Billy goats all summer so she must be ready to deliver any day now. Bonnie seems ok with Jill; I've been locking them in the goat shed at night because there is apparently a few cougars running around. In fact, we found some pretty big paw prints about 50 ft. from our house out back. There was also some scat. They were definitely not our dogs' paw prints. I don't like that at all.

1 Corinthians 3:19-20 "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain."

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