

A view from the hill



Victor Vander Does, WC Terrace administrator, Suzanne Jepsen, board member and volunteer and Evelyn Broun, Terrace resident, show off the new Willow Creek Terrace van, equipped for use with wheel chairs.

By Doris Brosnan

When the residents of Willow Creek Terrace gather for their exercise program each weekday morning, they miss the presence of their neighbor Lowell Gribble, who passed away in December. They also said "goodbye" to Francis Circle last month, when he decided to return to his roots in Western Oregon. Both losses they work to accept.

Before saying "goodbye" to the year 2005, residents enjoyed several Christmas events, including a concert of harp music, the Light Parade and a Christmas dinner of prime rib. They then did say "goodbye" to 2005 over their New Year's Eve dinner of crab and shrimp. It was a satisfying end to another year of change and growth.

One change at the Terrace showed up just two days before the year's end: the new-to-them van, a 2005 model that will facilitate residents' local travel to medical appointments, meetings and shopping.

Few residents stayed up to welcome in 2006, but they have been pleased to welcome new neighbors into their community. Three new colleagues have moved in, in plenty of time to participate in this month's Bingo games, crafts workshops, card parties and game-playing, weekend matinees, musical entertainment and a birthday celebration. Sylvia McDaniel, a long-time resident of Heppner, started the year with a move to the Terrace from the St. Patrick's Senior Apartments.

Her across-the-hall neighbor, Irene Haskett, moved in two weeks later, returning to Heppner after several years in Hermiston. Haskett has already called back into service, for McDaniel's, her hair-styling skills once popular in a Heppner beauty shop. Another familiar face moved into the last available apartment last week, Floyd Green, previously of Lexington. They will surely join the celebration on Jan. 30 of Eva Griffith's 97th birthday, and in the meantime, they have had the music of the Ol' Time Fiddlers to enjoy on Jan. 22.

February will bring a return on Valentine's Day of the Ione School students. Last year, the children sang several appropriate selections. The residents look forward to the repeat performance and will be creating some Valentine gifts to show their appreciation. That same day will bring another visit from the Book Worms Book Club, a group who previously enjoyed holding a meeting at the Terrace. At least one resident is also a member of that group.

Just as this club from the community-at-large feels welcome and comfortable at Willow Creek Terrace, residents and staff hope that other groups and individuals know that they are encouraged to visit. One resident last week had friends in for their regularly scheduled afternoon of card playing in her "home," which is exactly the view of the Terrace that the residents are encouraged to hold. Life at home has much to offer.

Winners in Americanism essay contest announced

Students from Ione and Heppner schools participated in the annual Elks Americanism Essay Contest. The theme this year was "What I feel when I look up at the American flag," said chairman Lindsay Kincaid.

Contest winners were:

Ione Schools- Grades 5-6 1st- Adam Collin, 2nd- Luke Emmel and 3rd- Mary Rietmann; and Grades 7-8 1st- Beth Morter, 2nd- Sara Stillman and 3rd- RJ Ramos.

Heppner Schools- Grades 5-6 1st- Austin Gutierrez, 2nd- Jonathan Chen and 3rd- Courtney George; and Grades 7-8 1st- Jake Gregory, 2nd- Kellee Jones and 3rd- Emily Thompson.

The Jones, Chen, Collin, Gutierrez, Stillman and Gregory essays will

move on to the district competition for judging.

Winter grower meeting to be held in Ione

A wheat production seminar will be held at Willow Grange in Ione on Friday, Feb. 17. Coffee and doughnuts will be served at 7 a.m. Presentations will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will continue until noon. Lunch will be provided.

MCSB to hold work session

The Morrow County School District Board of Directors will hold a work session via polycom on Thursday, Jan. 26. Polycom sites will be the district office in Lexington and Irrigon Elementary School in Irrigon. The work session will begin at 7 p.m.

Mr. Bill's Traveling Trivia to return to Heppner

"Mr. Bill's Traveling Trivia" is returning to Heppner on April 1.

"Do you know the name of the rabbit in the 1942 Disney movie 'Bambi'?" a trivia committee member asks. "Then you have a good chance of having fun and winning some of the prizes that 'Mr. Bill's Traveling Trivia Show' will be giving away. The fun begins with a tuxedo-clad Mr. Bill offering some sample questions with reassurance that spelling doesn't count. Then, it's on with the show."

Last year, "Mr. Bill" came to Heppner in his tuxedo for the first time, as a fundraiser for the FARM Foundation's agricultural mural. Thirty teams spent the evening trying to be the best at answering questions from seven categories. The winning team was the

"Strange Bedfellows," a team from Salem with close ties to Morrow County, followed closely by the "Factoid Fanatics" and the "Big Dogs." The "Oldies But Goodies," who did not like the questions, won the consolation prize. Some of last year's players are already wondering who will be after bragging rights and the prizes that go with them this year.

Bill Klein of Newport, created the show in 1984, offering it once a week at a Salem pub. After six months, Bill was doing eight shows seven days a week. The show has been going strong ever since. "Mr. Bill" likes to travel and has played DJ and Trivia Host in Arizona, California, Montana, North Carolina, Virginia, Washington and Oregon.

Mr. Bill's trivia is played over the course of

three or four rounds of eighteen questions each. Teams huddle to come up with answers, which are written down and turned into Klein's "lovely assistant." Raffle tickets are distributed to players at the end of each round, according to team scores. Tickets are drawn throughout the evening for several various prizes.

Mr. Bill's questions are based on these categories: Movies, Science, History, Sports, Geography, Arts, Literature, Television, Leisure, Nature, Music and an occasional "Name That Tune." His questions come from a database of some 19,000 questions, 20 versions of "Trivial Pursuit" and other trivia games, a library of reference material, and the Internet. Some of the best questions come from trivia players. Sample questions can be found at www.mrbillstrivia.com.

"We hope everyone will be thinking about trivia now and be ready to sign up a team when the registration forms become available, which will happen as soon as we have selected a location," reports the committee member. Each team can have up to six players. Entry per team is \$120. "That equals \$20 per person," explains the committee member, "and the trivia show offers some great entertainment and chances at prizes for that amount." Entry fees for some of last year's teams were paid by business and individual sponsors.

Next month another news article will offer more information about the Trivia Show event and registration forms will be distributed among the area communities. Information is available by calling Sharon at 676-9125 or Doris at 676-5382.

St. Patrick's Senior Center news

United Methodist volunteers are hosts for the Feb. 1 noon meal at the center.

On the following Wednesday, Feb. 8, Adams Hearing Center, from Hermiston, will offer a free hearing seminar at the center, beginning at 12:30 p.m. The seminar will include testing, consultation, demonstration of a variety of hearing aids and responses to questions that anyone might have. The seminar is very informative and is being offered as a free service to not only seniors, but also to others with questions about hearing.

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Felix Schwarzin on Jan. 18.

Florene Robinson, board treasurer, gave a comprehensive report of the past year's financial activity and presented the new budget for approval. The board's cash flow has improved during the last quarter of 2005, because of donations and the public response to the distribution of the updated brochure, including the generosity of Columbia Basin Electric, who included it with their monthly mailing. Members of the board expressed appreciation to all who gave for specific purposes, sent memorial funds or offered other kinds of gifts, services and donations.

The new budget, with a slight increase to cover expected expenses, was offered and approved by the board members. In addition, some transfers and adjustments were made to increase the endowment funds and to ensure ready funds for emergencies, as well as to plan for the center's contribution to the cost of the new roof. It was pointed out that memorial contributions add to the financial stability of the community facility. They are enormously appreciated. The budget and the annual and monthly reports were approved.

Judy Buschke, secretary, gave a summary of activities during the year:

-Bus Service: directed by Ed Baker continues Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday, to Hermiston and to Pendleton on Tuesdays. During January, February and March, the Walla Walla service is not offered. It will begin again on April 1.

-Participation in community activities: the St. Patrick's Day celebration Saturday breakfast and soup feed.

-Receptions, public meetings and public service activities: Red Cross blood draws, blood pressure service, flu shots, space for other activities (i.e. Sentimentalist rehearsal.)

-Regular activities: cards, dominoes, jig-saw puzzles, Tuesday evening bingo and open houses for apartment showing. Ruby Steers has opened the Go-For-It table every Wednesday during the meal time and when the people gather and disperse.

The Mission Statement was approved after a special board planning meeting in October. Buschke read the statement as a prelude to hearing a discussion of goals and other possibilities by Grace Drake. The states is as follows: "The purpose of the Senior Center Board of Directors is to provide support and assistance on behalf of seniors and handicapped citizens."

Drake named five categories in which the aims of the statement can be directed and achieved:

-Create and maintain an atmosphere of hospitality through news releases, cooperation with groups which support the center, encourage self initiated activities such as the community Christmas Dinner and posting names of board members, goals and activities.

-Oversee the upkeep of the building through regular inventories of contents, janitorial services and maintenance, constant awareness of traffic lanes and other use of space; disposing of useless, unused and surplus articles and equipment. Be aware of safety needs and sensitive to suggestions made by residents and other users.

-Work within the parameters and conditions agreed on with agencies who support and subsidize our facility, including CAPECO, Heppner Housing Authority, city and organizations who provide volunteers. Promote understanding of mutual helpfulness.

-Work together with each other and all level of the organization. Be prompt with appreciation, especially towards volunteers, donors and those who give

volunteers labor. Understand that the "grass roots," that is users and providers are the power source of this community institution. We have a responsibility to take care of it and share it because it belongs to us - the community members.

-Maintain orderly meetings in order to adequately oversee all the complexities of the facilities and to keep adequate records for all avenues of administration of the facility.

In other business, officers were re-elected for 2006. Charge for public use of the fax machine, donated by CAPECO, is set at \$2.50 for the first sheet and \$1 for each additional sheet. Appreciation was expressed to Red Apple for their 1 percent saving program and regret that it will be discontinued March 31. The steel desk, formerly in the center office, is, by vote of the board, offered to the highest bidder.

Morrow County Gun Club news

Twelve shooters joined in the first shoot of 2006 on Jan. 22 at Morrow County Gun Club.

In single's competition, Jeff Cutsforth took 23 out of 25. Rob Ashbeck and Mark Schlichting followed with 21 of 25 and Deona Hodges and Dennis Peck took 20 of 25. In junior competition, Taylor Hodges took 11 of 25.

In handicap competition, Cutsforth hit 20 out of 25 shots, with Kelwayne Haguewood following with 17 and Deona Hodges with 15 shots.

The annual meeting was held after the shoots. Board members voted in-President Rob Ashbeck, Vice-President Deona Hodges, Secretary/Treasurer Kelwayne Haguewood, Dennis Peck and Larry Lutchter.

Buckles donated by Market Mfg., Jeff Cutsforth Farms and Peg Leg Farms will be ordered this week.

The next shoot of the gun club will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29. Clubhouse cleanup will be held at 11 a.m., with winter league sign up and shooting beginning at 12 p.m.

WCLL to hold meeting

Willow Creek Little League will be holding a meeting in Arlington on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Inn.

Honor students announced at Ione Community School

Students earning high honors with a grade point average of 4.0 are as follows: Mary Rietmann, Michael Raible, Beth Morter, Sarah Stillman, Alex Carlson, RJ Ramos, Tiana Camarillo, Amy Jepsen, Kristal Temple, Priscilla Tellez, Emily Rietmann and Justin Archer.

Grades 6-8 Honor Roll (3.5-4.0): Steven Holland, Zachary Orem, Jordan Peterson, Christine Raible, Makenna Ramos, Micah Stillman, Stefanie Archer and Heather Wiggers.

Grades 6-8 Honorable Mention (3.0-3.49): Jeremy Coleman, Adam Collin, Mason Haguewood, Omar Juarez Mancilla, Thomas Holland, Alex Rietmann, Tanner Rietmann, Shelby Wiggers, Brianna Peterson and Tyree Svetich.

Grades 9-12 Honor Roll (3.5-4.0): Matt Coleman, Brenna Rietmann, Kip Krebs, Kaylee Palmateer, Alan Rietmann, Julianna VandenBrink, Stephanie Holland, Megan Tollefson, Ashly Grams, Tony Bolin, Niklas Kamp and Michael Mayer.

Grades 9-12 Honorable Mention (3.0-3.49): Luke Bradfield, Torie Heagy, Clay Morter, Josie Miller, Kylee Svetich, Max Trahan, Teonna Vandever, Mason Bradfield, Brittnee DesBouillons, Tereza Sintakova, William Bergstrom and John Walton.

DA's report

Jeffrey Allen Black was convicted of Possession of a Controlled Substance 2, a Class C felony and Felon in Possession of a Fire Arm, a Class C felony. Black's driver's license was suspended for six months and he was sentenced to 366 days in jail and two years of probation.

Gilbert Garza was convicted of Possession of a Controlled Substance 2, a Class felony. Garza's driver's license was suspended for six months and he was sentenced to 30 days in jail, 80 hours community service, 18 months of supervised probation and payment of \$916 in fines and fees.

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