

Letters, cont.

From page 17

With regard to Colleen De Shazer, when she was asked if she would have personal gain if she was elected, her reply was no. I believe that she would be using the office to help stop her neighbor from using his property as he desires. I also believe that Colleen doesn't have a good grasp of the issues involved in this county, nor does she have the experience necessary to run an entire county smoothly.

We need someone with experience, and I feel neither Rita nor Colleen have that.

**Debbie Rhodes
St. Helens**

Support for 9-1-1 great; do it again!

To the Editor:

I just wanted to say thank you to all the citizens who voted in this past mail-in ballot.

After a long day of motor vehicle accidents, child abuse, runaway teenagers, drunk drivers, and house fires, it is an inspiration to know you support us.

Thank you, let's do it again in November!

**Julie Pelletier
Columbia 9-1-1
Communications District
St. Helens**

New jail is needed for safety of all

To the Editor:

Columbia County needs a new jail. The current jail is too small, leading to early release of inmates. It is unsafe for citizens, corrections personnel, and inmates. It has inadequate space for medical services and programming.

The jail has been overcrowded almost every day of this year. Numerous offenders have been released early from serving their sentence or sanction for violating their parole or probation. Many of these offenders are in jail for committing person to person crimes.

I have worked as a parole and probation officer for about 25 years. At the present time Columbia County Community Corrections supervises approximately 400 individuals on probation, parole, post-prison supervision and pre-trial release. Our primary responsibility is to monitor the individuals compliance to release conditions. When they refuse to comply with the conditions, they are either sanctioned or referred back to the Court or Parole Board for a hearing. Sometimes non-custody sanctions are used and are effective. However, compliance to sanctions appears to diminish as more and more inmates are released early.

It is very important that the most restrictive sanction (jail) is available for the offenders that do not follow their release conditions. Due to the size and overcrowded condition of the current Jail, offenders that should be in jail, are not in jail.

Obituary

BERNICE L. AGEE

Bernice L. Agee, 79, North Plains, died Oct. 9, 1998, in North Plains. Private services will be held at a later date. Disposition was by cremation.

Mrs. Agee was born Jan. 29, 1919, in Hebron, Neb., to Leroy S. and Lois F. (Dyer) Logan. She grew up in Hillsboro and attended Hillsboro High School.

She married John W. Agee in 1937 at Vancouver, Wash.

Mrs. Agee was an office clerk for Montgomery Ward & Co. during the 1950s and 60s, and worked in the cafeteria of Hillsboro High School in the 1980s.

She was preceded in death by a son, Terry; and her husband, in 1993.

Survivors include her son, John W. Jr. of Vernonia; daughter, Karlene M. Lepley of Vancouver, Wash.; brother, Wayne of Granby, Mo.; sister, Doris Tobler of Yelm, Wash.; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to Washington County Hospice, 427 SE Eighth Ave., Hillsboro, 97123.

Donelson, Sewell & Mathews Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

KAY V. KUYKENDALL

Kay Vernon Kuykendall, 62, Oregon City, died Oct. 11, 1998, at his home, of cancer. A potluck party will be held in celebration of his life on Oct. 24, beginning at 2 p.m., at Carpenter Hall, 276 Warner Milne Road in Oregon City.

Mr. Kuykendall was born March 18, 1936, in Oakland, Calif. He served in the U.S. Navy. In 1958 he married Betty Colby.

He was a truck driver in the Portland area for 28 years, most recently for Distribution Trucking Co. He retired in 1990.

Mr. Kuykendall was a member of the Beavercreek Lions Club.

He played mandolin and harmonica in the Cabin Fever Band at Clackamas Community College during the 1980s, and, most recently, with the Herring Family Band.

Survivors include his wife; daughter, Karrie Nations of Banks; son Kelly of Portland; mother, Lorraine of Canby; brother, Kerry of Woodburn; and two granddaughters.

Remembrances are suggested to the Beavercreek Lions Club or the American Lung Association of Oregon for Research.

HOWARD E. NELSON

Howard E. Nelson, 72, Hillsboro, died Oct. 9, 1998, in Portland. Funeral services were Oct. 13 at Donelson, Sewell & Mathews Mortuary. Interment followed in Mountain View Cemetery.

Mr. Nelson was born May 10, 1926, in Hillsboro, to Alfred and Agnes (Anderson) Nelson. He was raised in the Dixie Mountain area and served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946.

Mr. Nelson married Ruth Wold in 1947. He was a farmer, raising strawberries, hay and cattle. He had also worked in the logging industry.

Mr. Nelson was a member of Jehovah's Witnesses, attending the Hillsboro congregation.

Survivors include his wife; son, Steve of Dixie Mountain; daughter, Barbara Conklin

of Dixie Mountain; mother, Agnes Harms of West Union; sisters; Ella Roe of West Union, Betty Comstock of Banks, and Donna Verhoef of Battle Ground, Wash.; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

Donelson, Sewell & Mathews Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

MANFORD "JONNIE" JOHNSON

Manford Warren "Jonnie" Johnson, 69, Warren, died Oct. 14, 1998. Memorial services were Oct. 20 at Calvary Lutheran Church. Burial of remains was in Bethany Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. Johnson was born July 24, 1929, in Pierpoint, S.D., and moved to St. Helens in 1942. He graduated from St. Helens High School in 1947, where he lettered in music and won the state solo award for tuba.

He worked as an assistant manager for Safeway stores, then opened the first Shell service station on Hwy. 26 in Manning. He worked for Marex Bakery and returned to the St. Helens area and worked for Gainer's Grocery. He began work for Crown Zellerbach paper mill (now Boise Cascade) in 1960, and became an environmental lab technician. He retired from Boise Cascade after 31 years.

Mr. Johnson, a well-known jazz musician, had performed with many bands in the Portland area and throughout the Northwest, including approximately 12 years at the Mt. Angel Oktoberfest with various bands. He performed with Dr. Jon's Jazz Band at three Sacramento Dixieland Jubilees and at the Koba Dixieland Festival in Japan in 1986. He also performed at the 1986 World's Fair in Vancouver, British Columbia.

While with the Capital City Jazz Band, he performed at a number of official functions, including Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's Inauguration Party and during an official visit to Salem by then Vice-President Dan Quayle.

He was a member of the American Federation of Musicians Local 99, and a life-long member of the Lutheran Church, where he sang in the choir for many years.

Mr. Johnson was a former member of the Association of Western Pulp & Paper Workers Local 1, where he served as a negotiator and on the grievance committee, the Tualatin Valley Rabbit Breeders Assoc., and Hummingbird Motorcycle Club of Longview.

He married Aleene Hudson of Vernonia; that marriage ended. He and his second wife, Mary, were married in 1960.

Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by a son, Paul, and a daughter, Nola.

Survivors include his wife; sons, Mike W. of Portland, Allen O. of South Africa and John J. of Beaverton; daughter, June Brady of Warren; brother, Harold of Atlanta; sisters, Pricilla Kimball of Milwaukie and Mary Ann Stein of Aloha; 13 grandchildren.

Columbia Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JIM H. CROWTHERS

Jim Hancock Crowthers, 77, Cornelius, died Oct. 10, 1998, at his home. Memorial

services were Oct. 18, at Laurel Community Church with Pastor Mike Moore officiating. Interment was in Buxton Cemetery.

Mr. Crowthers was born Jan. 29, 1921, in Payette, Idaho, to Dr. Earl J. and Lina (Hancock) Crowthers. He moved with his family to Portland at age three. He graduated from Washington High School in 1939.

He attended several colleges, including Multnomah School of the Bible in Portland, Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Western Baptist Seminary and Oregon College of Education. He finished his degree at Lewis and Clark College.

Mr. Crowthers married Betty in 1944, at Tacoma Wash. They lived in Forest Grove until moving to Cornelius 19 years ago.

He and his wife served as evangelical missionaries in Mexico for a year.

Mr. Crowthers worked for J.C. Penny Co. in Portland and Forest Grove before becoming a teacher. He taught fifth and sixth grades at West Tualatin View, Barnes Elementary School in Beaverton, Vernonia Grade School and retired from Joseph Gale Elementary School in Forest Grove in the mid-1970s.

After retiring he drove a taxi in Beaverton and taught for a short time at Banks Christian Academy High School.

Mr. Crowthers also served as an interim pastor at several metropolitan area churches, including Vancouver and Hillsboro and, most recently, the Tigard Family Baptist Church, of which he was one of the founders.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Cleo Sperl, in 1998.

Survivors include his wife; daughters, Julia Dart of Portland, Joanne Petersen of Beaverton, and Susan Durnford of Aloha; sons, Steven of Lake Oswego and David of Olalla, Wash.; sisters Loia Lehr of Portland and Rita Schubert of Tacoma, Wash.; a half-sister, Karen Tolman of Ohio; 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to the Laurel Community Church Memorial Fund.

Bronleewe-Bass Funeral Home of Hillsboro was in charge of arrangements.

MERLE J. CURINGTON

Merle Junior Curington, 74, Scoggins Valley, died Oct. 10, 1998, at his home. Memorial services were Oct. 17 at Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove, with a flag honor presentation by American Legion Washington Post 2. At his request, his body was donated to Oregon Health Sciences University for medical re-

search.

Mr. Curington was born June 9, 1924 in Sturgis, S.D., to Stanley N. and Myrtle lone (Brown) Curington. As a young child, he moved to Oregon, where he attended grade school in Banks, Mist and Orenco. He graduated from Forest Grove High School.

He served in the 43rd division of the U.S. Army in the Philippines and Japan during World War II.

Mr. Curington then attended Pacific University in Forest Grove for a year and transferred to College of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. He graduated in 1951 with a degree in music and played first chair coronet at the school. He later did post-graduate work in counseling and psychology at San Francisco State and Portland State Universities.

He married Barbara Langford in 1957 at Scoggins Valley, where they lived until divorcing in 1980.

In 1981 he married Marcia Demmer; she died in 1991.

Mr. Curington worked as a teacher and counselor, mainly in the Hillsboro School District. During summer months he drove a log truck and managed his own 120-acre wood lot.

He was a member of the Oregon Education Association and the Small Forest Woodland Association.

Mr. Curington was preceded in death by a brother, Albert.

Survivors include his sons, Ian J. of Windsor, England, Bruce J. of Sandpoint, Idaho, and Christopher A. of Cornelius; daughter, Susan L. of Gaston; brother, Stanley William of Oakland; sister, Margaret lone Koberstein of Hillsboro; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a niece and a nephew.

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home of Forest Grove was in charge of arrangements.

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Please vote "Yes" for the County Jail.

Sincerely,
**Cliff Multanen
St. Helens**

Background given on new jail proposal

To the Editor:

About two years ago I attended a meeting regarding the Columbia County Jail. I wanted to see what was going to happen with regard to a new facility. I wasn't sure if we needed a new facility and I didn't want my property taxes to go up. At the second meeting we decided to form a citizens task force to see if we needed a new facility or if we could survive with the present facility. I was invited to tour the existing facility and I did. What an eye opening experience. I saw the sheriff's staff working in conditions that would drive most people up a wall. Some offices were no bigger than closets. They have

storage lockers in restrooms because there's nowhere else to put them. They have a kitchen smaller than most home that they serve 120+ meals per day out of. They have a common area where every person they arrest is brought to and mixes with the general public. There are no electric locks on the doors so in case of a fire, earthquake or other disaster the staff has to physically run in and try to open each individual door on the cells. I was overwhelmingly convinced that we need a new facility. This one is overcrowded and has served its purpose.

The jail committee then turned its focus on the size of the jail and the big issue: "the cost". After many meetings throughout the county and discussions with law enforcement, citizens, and a jails consultant the committee recommended that the county build a 130 bed facility. This will allow for growth and not give us a facility that will be obsolete in a few

years. We also suggested the facility be built so it is easily expandable. The original price tag came to around 18 million dollars. We thought that was too much money so the county commissioners went to work and were able to cut the cost back to 14 million. This is still not a small amount of money but if we build a facility that's too small or non-functional what's the sense of building it at all? In November you will have the opportunity to vote on this bond issue. If you have any doubts about the need for a new jail, please take a tour of our existing facility. I'm sure you will come to the same conclusion I did and vote yes for a new Columbia County jail.

**Chris Iverson
St. Helens**

"Vote," says Demo Central Committee

To the Editor:

On November 3rd, we will

have an opportunity to vote in the 1998 General Election. This is our chance to have a voice in how we govern ourselves. Voting is not only our right, but our privilege, and our duty. We here in Columbia County have important issues before us and many good candidates, in key positions, to vote for. The Columbia County Democratic Central Committee supports the following Democratic candidates.

Ron Wyden, U.S. Senate; David Wu, U. S. Congress; John Kitzhaber, Governor; Joan Dukes, Oregon Senate; Jackie Taylor, Oregon House of Representatives; Rita Bernhard, Columbia County Commissioner.

Please join us in supporting these candidates on November 3rd, and get out and vote.

Thank you,
**Randy Peterson
Chairman, Columbia
County Democratic
Central Committee
St. Helens**