

Did You Know...

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over the last two years, including a 2000 Ford from Lake Oswego, a 1999 Ford from St. Helens, and a 2000 and 2001 Ford from Hillsboro PD. We just acquired a 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe from Hillsboro that replaces the K9 car, which is in need of some repairs. With each of the "free" vehicles I have learned that the "free" does not mean "free," taking into account that on each vehicle equipment needs to be installed, they need to be painted or decals need to be installed, and the fact that ALL of these vehicles, thus far, developed major mechanical problems.

In 2005 we decided to try a leasing program with the State

of Oregon when we leased a 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe K-9 vehicle and a 1999 Chevrolet Camaro which was a quasi-DARE car leased by the Lions Club and other donations. The problem with the lease program is that we are still responsible for all maintenance and repairs under strict State guidelines. Both of these vehicles ended up requiring some substantial repairs due to their age and we subsequently returned both of these vehicles to avoid any further major bills. In 2006 we leased the 1999 GMC SUV after retiring the 1996 Jeep following a major repair. The Jeep was subsequently transferred to Vernonia Public works. The State of Oregon announced a

change in their lease rates so I met with the previous City Administrator to propose a new fleet program for the VPD.

The new program started to replace the older/used fleet with new vehicles that are under warranty. The vehicles would be leased as a package that included all of the equipment. The older vehicles would be sold, if viable, or disposed of if not. Most agencies then retire the newer vehicles at the end of their warranties and can sell them for decent prices. The leases also included adding video cameras to the patrol vehicles for documentation of incidents, accidents, and for the protection of the officers and citizens. All of the equipment as

well as the vehicles, have factory warranties which greatly reduce maintenance/repair costs. The new vehicles also offer greater fuel efficiency. The Dodge Charger has V6 with the power of a V8 but gets 20 to 27mpg compared to the older Fords getting 10-17mpg. The Ford SUV gets 17-25mpg compared to 8-12mpg for the GMC Suburban (2500).

Beside the cost savings of the newer vehicles there is a pride factor for both the officers and the community. I have had numerous visitors comment on the professionalism of the VPD which I know is attributed in large part to the well-maintained vehicles. The number of vehicles allows officers to have

a unit at their home for direct responses to call-outs. Without 24/7 coverage, officers often need to respond from home. An emergency call-out would have a greatly reduced response time if the officer needed to go to the station, obtain a vehicle with the needed equipment then respond to a scene. The take-home vehicle allows for an immediate response with little delay. All of the choices for the VPD fleet have been made with responsibility and in conjunction with the City Administration/budget committee. If you have questions about the fleet or any other aspect of the VPD I encourage you to call me at 503-429-7335 or email me at chief@vernonia-or.gov.

Obituary

KRIS DUANE CROWSTON

Kris Duane Crowston, 49, Hillsboro, died October 4, 2007. A celebration of life was held October 9 in the Vernonia High School gymnasium. Interment was private.

Mr. Crowston was born July 21, 1958, in Tacoma, Washington, to John Gordon Edward and Patricia Joan Crowston. The family moved to Vernonia in 1965. He graduated from Vernonia High School in 1976. He earned a bachelor's degree in business from Oregon State University. He served on the Vernonia School Board.

In 1979, he married Susan Griffin. He managed restaurants and worked in the heavy equipment business for 21 years. For the past two years, he owned a screen-printing and embroidery business in Hillsboro.

He was preceded in death by his mother.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, John of Los Angeles, California, and Isaac of Beaverton; three daughters, Patricia Ball of Portland and Kristin and Stesha Crowston, both of Hillsboro; his father and stepmother, Gordon and Leilani Crowston of Tillamook; a brother, Gordy of Medford; a sister, Brooke VanMeter of Vernonia; three step-sisters; two grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the Vernonia High School Scholarship fund.

Fir Lawn Mortuary of Hillsboro was in charge of arrangements.

GERTRUDE GOODRICH

Gertrude Goodrich, 68, Forest Grove, died October 1, 2007. Services have been held.

Mrs. Goodrich was born October 6, 1938, in Pierre, South Dakota. Her maiden name was Agee. She graduated from high school in Boise, Idaho.

In 1956, she married Delmar Goodrich Sr. She had lived in Washington County since 1968. She worked as a delicatessen manager.

She was preceded in death by her husband.

Survivors include two sons, Delmar Goodrich Jr. of Beaverton, and Terry Goodrich of Banks; two daughters,

Sharon Goodrich and Shela Goodrich, both of Forest Grove; a brother, Howard Agee of San Antonio, Texas; two sisters, Georgia Miller of Meridian, Idaho, and Barbara Templeton of Middleton, Idaho; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to the American Cancer Society or Washington County Hospice.

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

PEARL EDNA HARTFORD

Pearl Edna Hartford, 97, Forest Grove, died September 30, 2007. Services have been held.

Mrs. Hartford was born January 10, 1910, in Lewistown, Montana, to Charles and Christina (McDonald) Perry. She was raised in Lewistown.

In 1928, she married Chester B. Hartford. They made their home in Lewistown, later moving to Portland. She moved to Forest Grove in the late 1990s. During World War II, she worked in the shipyards, otherwise, she was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two sons, Carl S. Hartford and Chester P. Hartford; a daughter, Joan C. Lungo; seven siblings; and five grandchildren.

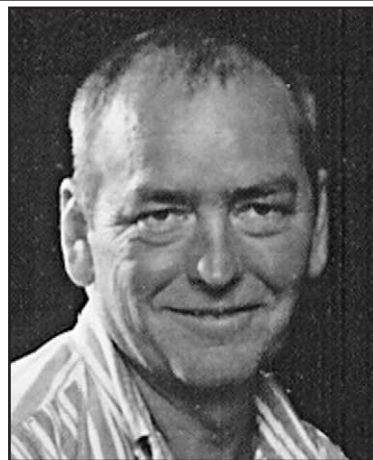
Survivors include her sons, Dale M. "Jake" Hartford of Banks, Don K. Hartford and Christy D. Hartford, both of Forest Grove; four daughters, Gloria Crutchfield of Phoenix, Arizona, Jean Berlew of Topeka, Kansas, Charlotte Lockett of Sandy, and Linda L. Gonzales of Milwaukie; 33 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; 30 great-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the Salvation Army, Cascade Division, P.O. Box 8798, Portland OR 97208.

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

DONALD JAN "D.J." NIES

Donald Jan "D.J." Nies, 48, Buxton, died October 12, 2007. Memorial services were held October 16 at Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove with Mr. Mark Peterson officiating. Interment followed at Buxton Cemetery. A



Donald "D.J." Nies

celebration of life will be held Friday, October 19, at the Nies family home, 30003 N.W. Hwy 47, Buxton.

Mr. Nies was born August 17, 1959, in Lakeland, Florida, to Ronald James Sr and Julia Olean (Black) Nies. He was raised in Florida and New York until his family moved to Buxton when he was 15. He graduated from Banks High School in 1977.

In 1981, he married Ginger R. Gritman. They made their home in Buxton. He worked as a heavy equipment operator.

He was preceded in death by a stepbrother, Larry Gray.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Bryan D. Nies of Buxton and Daniel J. Gritman of Banks; a daughter, Kristin

R. Nies of Banks; his father of Jacksonville, Fla.; his mother, Julia "Olean" Widener of Buxton; five brothers, Ronald "Jim" Nies, Jr., and Edward Leek, Jr., both of Buxton, Bob Gray of Memphis, Tennessee, Randy Widener of Hillsboro, and Jeffrey Widener of Salem; six sisters, Anise "Jean" Pafford, of Jacksonville, Flor., Darlene McGinnis of Glenwood, Marlene Bigsby of Buxton, Juanita Vanderzanden of Aloha, Debbie Boeshans of Hillsboro, and Marilyn Maynard of Mountaineale; two grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the American Cancer Society, 0330 SW Curry St., Portland OR 97201.

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

GLADYS MAY WRIGHT

Gladys May Wright, 79, Forest Grove, died September 27, 2007. A service has been held.

Mrs. Wright was born November 1, 1927, in Yates Center, Kansas, to Adam and Ruth Church. She was raised in Kansas. She moved to Sandy.

In 1944, she married Robert T. Wright. They made their home in Elma, Washington. From 1957 to 1963, she lived in Beaver, then moved to Gales

Creek. She moved to Vernonia in 1968 and to McMinnville in 1977, to Cherry Grove in 1995 and to Forest Grove in 2000. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by four sons, Eddy, Teddy, Bobby, and Mickey Wright; a daughter, Donna Wright; and two brothers.

Survivors include two sons, Isaac Franklin Wright and Ronald Wright, both of Gaston; seven daughters, Becky King of McMinnville, Janie Candevan and Jessie Telford, both of Estacada, Bessie Johnson of Vancouver, Wash., Patricia Englehart of Kennewick, Wash., Barbara Bitner of Wichita, Kan., and Kathy Cogswell of Gaston; a brother, John Church of San Jose, California; 26 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Macy & Son of McMinnville was in charge of arrangements.

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