

How another community newspaper views the Flood of 2007

From page 16
and when you turn the corner there heading into town they have this huge pile of debris and it just takes your breath away," Spiesschaert said.

Clark McGaugh, publisher of *The Independent* in Vernonia, said the pile is called "Mt. Trashmore."

McGaugh spent most of the week helping dig his mom and neighbors out of muck and getting his office back online. The paper missed its deadline last week but hopes to have an issue on the press this week.

McGaugh said he was stunned by the volunteers' response.

"They've pulled people off rooftops and the like. Everybody just performed exemplary," McGaugh said. "We've lost

no lives and everybody has been accounted for and is OK."

Even so, the town is still in dire need of men's clothing and cash donations.

That's exactly what Forest Grove's two Rotary clubs have rounded up. So far, the groups have sent off \$750 cash and 1,290 gallons of drinking water along with other donations that have trickled in. Pacific University, meanwhile, has pledged \$1,000 to the cause.

The City of Forest Grove has been sending drinking water and about seven cords of split oak firewood from trees that fell in city parks, according to City Manager Michael Sykes, whose mother had to be evacuated from her home in Vernonia.

Cedar Canyon Bottled Wa-

ter, of Forest Grove, threw in another pallet of water, and the Hillsboro Rotary Club held an auction to raise money for Vernonia.

The outpouring of support from Washington County is provided a needed cushion for the town that is awaiting federal disaster assistance.

With Saturday's declaration of an emergency, federal aid will now be available to Vernonia residents without insurance.

Abby Kershaw, spokeswoman for Oregon Emergency Management, said that residents of Columbia, Tillamook and Clatsop counties should call FEMA directly (1-800-621-FEMA) to apply for aid, which can come in a number of forms, including emergency food stamps.

Kershaw doesn't yet know the exact toll of the damage in Vernonia or anywhere else. Her agency is rushing to keep up with the quick speed of the federal and state responses.

"This declaration came faster than blue blazes so we're trying to back our way back into the numbers," Kershaw said.

Gilbertson said that the

speedy response has helped get Vernonia on track. Now it's just a matter of cleaning up the mess and getting back to normal.

The holiday season won't wait for that, however.

"We're just taking it day by day," Gilbertson said. "Vernonia is an awesome little town and we're going to pull out of this."



Obituary

ARTHUR MELVIN BARROW

Arthur Melvin Barrow, 92, Cornelius, died November 21, 2007. A funeral mass was celebrated November 27 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, in Forest Grove, with the Reverend William Holtzinger, celebrant. Interment was at St. Francis Cemetery in Roy.

Mr. Barrow was born October 23, 1915, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Arthur Louis and Jessie Belle (Hamilton) Barrow. He was raised in Cleveland, Ohio.

In 1939, he married Agnes C. Jaracz. They made their home in Ohio until moving to Cornelius in 1984. He was a professional musician before going into the family business, Barrow Sign Company, started in 1909 by his father. He retired in 1983.

He was preceded in death by his wife; an infant son, Ronnie; and a sister, Arline Gosnell.

Survivors include two daughters, Donna L. Lawless of Forest Grove, and Beverly J. Bernath of Banks; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to Hospice of Washington County, 900 SE Oak St., #202, Hillsboro OR 97123.

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

ARLETTA M. E. FRACE

Arletta M. E. Frace, 68, Scappoose, died November 24, 2007. A memorial service was held November 28 at the Westside Chapel in Lake Oswego. Private interment was held at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

Mrs. Frace was born December 11, 1938, in Chehalis, Washington, to Otto and Laverna (Jones) Hinton. Her family settled in Scappoose when she was a young girl.

In 1974, she married John D. Frace. They made their home in Scappoose, then North Plains and Vernonia, before returning to Scappoose 10 years ago. She worked as an EKG technician at Good Samaritan Hospital, as a nurse's aid and as a doctor's assistant.

She was preceded in death by a

son, Rick Pugh; a daughter, Terri Pernsteiner; and a grandson.

Survivors include her husband; a son, David Pugh of Vancouver, Wash.; two daughters, Claudia Kinman of St. Helens, and Linda Jacobus of Redmond; life-long friend Joyce Jones; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to Compassion Ministries or The Salvation Army.

Tualatin Valley Funeral Alternatives in Hillsboro was in charge of arrangements.

VONA MARY HARVEY

Vona Mary Harvey, 81, formerly of Vernonia, died October 21, 2007. A memorial service was held at Evergreen Lodge in Federal Way, Washington.

Mrs. Harvey was born February 14, 1926. Her maiden name was Weidman. She graduated from Vernonia High School in 1945. She was owner and manager of Village Daycare and preschool for 36 years.

Survivors include her husband, Alex; a son, John Harvey; two daughters, Mary Sotherlund and Joanne Harvey; three brothers, Lorin Weidman, Paul Weidman, and Bob Weidman; a sister, Juanita Davis; two granddaughters; four great-grandsons; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the American Heart Association.

VINCENT L. HERMENS

Vincent L. Hermens, 91, Forest Grove, died November 20, 2007. A funeral mass was celebrated November 29 at Visitation Church. Interment was at Mt. View Cemetery.

Mr. Hermens was born February 10, 1916, in Verboort, to William and Annie Hermens. He grew up on the family farm and attended Visitation Grade School.

In 1940, he married Mary Ann "Babe" Meeuwssen. They made their home in Verboort, until moving to Forest Grove in 1972. He was a farmer and also worked as a custodian for the

Banks and Forest Grove school districts for over 20 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife; a daughter, Bettie Lou; and one grandson.

Survivors include two sons, Robert and Larry; a daughter, Marilyn Hermens; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Remembrances are suggested to Forest Grove Senior Center, P.O. Box 784, Forest Grove OR 97116.

Duyck & VanDeHey Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

ROBERT RAY KELLER

Robert Ray Keller, 55, Vernonia, died November 21, 2007. Private interment was held.

Mr. Keller was born March 4, 1952, in Forest Grove, to Lester and Bonnie (Bell) Keller. He was raised in Forest Grove and attended Dilley School. He served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam era. He moved to Vernonia in the 1980's. He worked as a logger.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his companion, Sue Owen of Vernonia; three sons, Sean Ray of Oregon City, Jude of Brea, California, and Andrew of Oceanside, Calif.; two daughters, Nicki Keller of Milwaukie, and Adrienne Camille Johnson of Brea, Calif.; a step-daughter, Deon Mariana of Milwaukie, Wisconsin; and three grandchildren.

Remembrances are suggested to the family in care of Wauna Federal Credit Union to help with expenses.

Tualatin Valley Funeral Alternatives in Hillsboro was in charge of arrangements.

LEON A. MUHR

Leon A. Muhr, 63, Manning, died October 30, 2007. A private family service has been held.

Mr. Muhr was born September 1, 1944, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, to Cecyl and Julia Muhr. He was raised in Nebraska.

In 1965, he married Mary Schostak. When they divorced nine years later, he

moved his family to Oregon. He was a reserve police officer with the Newberg Police Dept., then did sheet metal work. He worked for Tektronix for 20 years, then other companies before retiring in 2005.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Marvin, Raymond, and Howard; two sisters, Lois Holland and Glenna Jensen; and one great-grandson.

Survivors include a son, Leonard; a daughter, Teresa Buchholz; three brothers, Gary, Larry, and Doyle; three sisters, Darlene Gibbs, Bonnie Libby, and Lucille Morris; 10 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

Attrell's of Newberg was in charge of arrangements.

MARYANN NELIA TROUT

Maryann Nelia Trout, 67, Roy, died November 10, 2007. Services have been held.

Mrs. Trout was born May 10, 1940, in Forest Grove, to William A. and Sylvia (Duyck) Peters. She was raised on the family farm in Roy. She graduated from Banks Union High School in 1958, then earned a teaching degree from Marylhurst College. She taught elementary school in Portland for two years.

In 1963, she married Gary Trout. They made their home in Aloha before moving to her family's homestead in 1993.

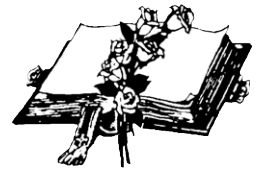
She was preceded in death by a brother, John W. Peters.

Survivors include her husband; two sons, Bob Trout of Banks, and Doug Trout of Aloha; one daughter, Debra Kenyon of Independence; two brothers, Merle Peters of Forest Grove, and Verle "Butch" Peters of Roy; four grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to St. Francis Grade School, 39135 NW Harrington Rd., Banks OR 97106.

Duyck & VanDeHey Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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