



# Vida McKenzie Community Center

Winter 2005 Newsletter

Dec. 3rd



## McKENZIE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Coming to the Geo. Millican Community Hall in Walterville.  
Brought to the McKenzie Valley by the members of the  
Vida McKenzie Community Center.

### CIVIL WAR GAME TICKET RAFFLE WINNER



The Ducks were up in Washington playing against a team that had nothing to lose. WSU was taking it to the Ducks and leading 14-10 at half time when Becky Holmes was blindfolded and pushed toward the raffle cage. The drawing was for 2 tickets to the up coming Civil War Game. It was conducted in front of over 60 people that had gathered for a family fun night of bingo at the Center. Becky withdrew her hand with the winning ticket. When the name on the ticket was read, "J. Brooks" followed by the phone number. Everyone was very (Continue on page 2)

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



As you will remember, last year's Christmas Bazaar was held at the Geo. Millican Community Hall or as many know it, the Walterville Grange. It was a huge success for the Center as a fundraiser and for the McKenzie Valley community. This year the Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, the same place, that grand old white building on Camp Creek behind Swartz Bros Market and a little to the West. Once again there will be a full house of tables with crafts and goodies that are those one of a kind gifts that you can't find in those fancy stores at the Gateway or Valley River Mall. As an additional attraction, the Lane County Public Works has created a series of special coins of Lane County covered bridges which will be for sale and auction. (Continue on page 2)



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## STUFF FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

by Walter W. Wilson

Lots of activity have been going on around the Center since summer. We have finally been able to get the wooden floor repaired and refinished thanks for Clark Wallin and his crew from New Dimension Hardwood Floors.

Clark gave us a good price on doing the work and then donated \$250.00 toward the total cost.

During this time Vern Blumhagen and I began a quest to find new lighter weight tables to replace the old wooden tables that have been around for more years than one can remember. For some reason these older tables seem to get heavier with each years of use. I was even considering going to the gym to buff up a little just to be able to handle the old tables. Of course that thought passed quick and the search for lighter tables began in earnest. It took some time but Vern located a company that produced a table called Mitylite. We were looking for a table that would fit our needs, look nice, and be well constructed that would withstand the riggers of use in a community center. Oh yes, it had to be much lighter than our old wooden tables. Vern actually located some of the tables at a senior citizen center in Eugene. We made a visit to check them out and decided at that point to purchase the Mitylite table. We now have six 8 foot tables and one 6 foot table. The tables and a cart have been in use at our Center since Oct. 13th. Marilyn and Vern Blumhagen purchased the cart to hold the tables and then donated it to the Center.

Two fundraisers have been in the works for several months. One of them, which ended on November 12th, was the raffle of two Ducks vs. Beavers Civil War Games football tickets. Our goal was \$1,000 this year which will go toward some of our building maintenance. We exceeded that amount by over \$100 thanks to you, our membership and additional football fans that purchased tickets. Several people worked diligently to make this a success. Millie Hass set up a table in front of Swartz Bros., Vern Blumhagen did the same in front of the Vida Market to sell tickets. I created some signs, posters and bottles to hold the tickets that were sold from three different locations in the valley. We thank the Walterville Fire Station, Walterville Hair By Susy D and Ike's Pizza for selling tickets for us. These three locations pushed us over our goal. Next time you are in one of these businesses, tell them thanks for helping us out.

Our next fundraiser is the Christmas Bazaar which will be held on Dec. 3rd between 9am and 4pm. This event takes a lot of people to pull it off. We need staff for two shifts in the snack bar. Additional people will be needed to sell raffle tickets throughout the day. We will need people to help move tables, equipment and help set up on Friday. And then comes all the work of taking everything down, cleaning up the building and getting the tables and equipment back to Vida. A few can do a lot, several more can make the job a lot easier. Don't wait for us to call you, call us.

**TICKET WINNER:** quiet for a second and then, many said, "that's Joyce Brooks".

Joyce Brooks was not with the bingo crowd that evening, she was home recuperating from recent hip surgery. The other Joyce, Joyce Wilson, made the telephone call and when she told Joyce Brooks about winning the Civil War Tickets, Joyce B. just said that she never wins anything. I bet she now has even more friends that she ever had, especially football friends.

Joyce Brooks said that she would not be going to the game but the tickets would be put to good use. She said that whoever gets the tickets will be asked to send a little donation to the Community Center. Thank you Joyce...

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** The first coin of the series will be of the McKenzie Valley's very own, the Goodpasture Bridge. These coins will come in two types. There will be a series of numbered coins that will be auctioned off at the Bazaar at 3pm. The second series will be of the non-numbered type that may be purchased at the Bazaar. Additional information about these coins on page 3.

Joyce Wilson will be coordinating the snack bar efforts again this year. There will be the usual assortment of goodies that everyone looks forward to at this type of event. Hotdogs, Kraut Dogs, Chili Dogs, Chili by the bowl, there will be a couple different kinds of home made soups that you can find only at this Bazaar. The snack bar will be loaded with pies and cakes of all flavors.

Faith Bokros, Joyce and Walter Wilson have been working the raffle donation circuit. They have succeeded in receiving donations of gift certificates and items that will exceed \$2,000 in value. There should be something of interest for everyone, ranging from rounds of golf, overnight stays at resorts and casino's, massage's, dinners, gym memberships and much more.

And for all of us young and old alike, Santa. On the right, a couple of little cuties from last year that had a few choice words to whisper in ole Santa's ear. Santa will be arriving at 11am for those who might wish to have a little secret word with him. If we know Santa, he'll be working crowd to find out who's been naughty and who's been nice.





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## GOODPASTURE BRIDGE COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Did you know that Lane County was the first county in Oregon to build covered bridges on a large scale? And, that we still have more covered bridges than any other county west of the Mississippi River? It's true. Lane County owns 17 covered bridges. They are a source of pride for those of us in Public Works who have worked on them, and for the communities in which the bridges are located. Sixteen bridges are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Fourteen are still open to traffic, a testimony to timely rehabilitation, continued good maintenance, and ample funding from the County Road Fund. The Engineering Division maintains the covered bridges that are open to traffic. Three covered bridges – Lowell, Currin, and Stewart -- are closed to vehicular traffic, and, because they are ineligible for Road Funds, are falling into disrepair. The Parks Division has committed to long-term maintenance for these three, but funding is limited.



To celebrate Lane County's covered bridge heritage – and to help maintain the out-of-service bridges – the Public Works Department will introduce a series of seventeen covered bridge commemorative coins. This fall, the Goodpasture Bridge commemorative coin will be the first released, with the other sixteen commemorative coins to come out over the next eight years.

The Goodpasture Bridge makes a good choice for the first commemorative coin, as it is arguably Lane County's most visible and photographed covered bridge. Named after a pioneer family homestead, the Goodpasture Bridge was constructed in 1938 and restored in 1987. The outstanding architectural details of the bridge include 20 gothic, louvered windows, false end beams, and semi-elliptical portal arches. Goodpasture Bridge is the second longest covered bridge in the state with a span of 165 feet.

The Parks Division is fronting the cost of minting the coins, and proceeds from the sale will go to the Lane County Parks Fund. Each commemorative coin will be one ounce of .999 fine silver and marked with the year minted. Ten percent of each commemorative coin edition will be individually numbered. Numbered coins will include a certificate of authenticity signed by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, the Public Works Director, and the Parks Manager.

Five hundred Goodpasture Bridge commemorative coins were minted, with fifty numbered. Starting November 18<sup>th</sup>, unnumbered commemorative coins will be available for purchase for \$20.00 on the Lane County e-commerce site (<http://ecomm.lanecounty.org>) or in person at the Lane County Public Works office at 3040 North Delta Highway, Eugene. Hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday

through Friday, except holidays.

We will kick off the sales of the numbered Goodpasture Bridge coins with an auction in conjunction with the McKenzie Christmas Bazaar at 3:00 pm on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Bazaar will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Walternille Community Center at 39259 Camp Creek Road. Todd Winter, Parks Manager, will be the auctioneer. Todd will start the auction with coin #1 and continue in ascending order as long as there is reasonable interest, up to about 15 - 20 coins. We are still working on the details of selling the remaining numbered coins.

For future commemorative coins, we will try to time the release of each new coin to coincide with scheduled events in the community near the bridge. For example, we anticipate issuing the Lowell Bridge commemorative coin in the summer 2006, to correspond with the opening of the Covered Bridge Interpretive Site and the Lowell Blackberry Jam Festival.

Public Works and PWEAA (Public Works Employees Activity Association) will share a booth at the Christmas Bazaar. PWEAA will be selling sand dollars and emu eggs hand painted with several different scenes of the Goodpasture Bridge. In addition to the unnumbered commemorative coins, the Parks Division will be selling 2006 Season Passes and Howard Buford Recreation Area (Mount Pisgah) Passes, and the new Lane County Road & Recreation Map. Should be a good time so mark your calendar!

## NEW TABLES AND CART

Vern Blumhagen and Walter Wilson did the leg work to find some light weight tables to replace the old wooden tables that have been used for years in the Center. It took some time and some telephone calls but a table that met the Centers needs was located. The best thing, one of the senior centers in Eugene were using the same table.



That gave Walt and Vern a chance to see how the table was made and what the tables looked like before ordering since there are no local manufacturers for this table. The tables are called "Mitylite". They weigh about 60lbs compared to about 90lbs for the wooden ones.

Marilynn and Vern Blumhagen purchased a cart that holds the tables for the Center. The cart is very easy to maneuver around and place in the table storage room. They purchased swivel wheel for both ends of the cart, which allows it to be pulled or pushed plus moving it sideways without trying to drive it like a car.



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## TAI CHI FOR HEALTH WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

The Oct. 1st Tai Chi Workshop put on by the McKenzie River Clinic at the Vida Community Center was a huge success and enjoyed by all that attended. Tai Chi is a gentle exercise to help relax and strengthen the body, aid concentration, and allow healing. It is a system that combines slow, graceful movement with calm, regular breathing. The Clinic is considering the possibility of having an additional workshop if there is interest. If you are interested, give them a call at 822-3341.

## NOV. 12th BINGO NIGHT ONE OF BEST

It was raining and there was a Duck football game on TV but that didn't stop the bingo players from coming. They kept coming and we kept putting up table after table until the room was packed to near capacity. It is really great to see all the families that are enjoying a night of bingo and boy, some of those kids sure are lucky in winning the games. Of course we don't give the winnings to the kids, it goes to the parents and then its up to the kids to negotiate.



The players that come generously bring and donate pies and cakes for the snack bar. These donations help really with our fundraising and is greatly appreciated.

At the Nov. games, you met Bernadette St. Onge-Barnes at the buy-in money taking table. Having Bernadette learn this portion of the operations really helps. We also introduced Becky Holmes, which handled the "calling". A first time for her operating our bingo equipment. Millie Hass was busy selling raffle basket tickets. Behind the counter working the snack bar was Laura Olson, Janice Williams and Linda Schaefers. Helping out on the floor was Greg Williams, Vern Blumhagen and Walter Wilson.

This night, with all the players, we had ten people that were helping serve the players. That included Joyce Wilson teaching Bernadette and Walter teaching Becky with the calling. As you can see it takes several people running the games to make it a success. Even with these ten people working we can still use some help. It would give those that work the games regularly a change to play now and then. Want to help? Give us a call. And YES, we play Bingo on Dec 10th.



## BECOME INVOLVED YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our fundraising events have been a huge success for the Center including the family fun Bingo night. But like most things it requires members to make it a success, not only as players but helpers to make the events work. Bingo may not be a game you enjoy playing, but maybe you could help out at the games? The more we have involved, the more fun it will be for everyone.

## HELP NEEDED

Current projects in which we need COORDINATORS:  
Bingo, 2005 Christmas Bazaar

The Center is looking for members of the community who can donate their time and skills to help rejuvenate the center.

We need help in the following areas:

**\*GARDNERS \* PLUMBERS \* FENCE BUILDERS \***  
**\*GRANT WRITERS \*CARPENTERS \*TILE LAYERS\***  
**\*SPONSORS FOR THE NEWSLETTER\***

If you can help please call Walter Wilson 896-0153.

## VIDA MCKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER 2005

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Walter W. Wilson	896-0153
VICE PRESIDENT:	Millie Hass	896-3821
TREASURER:	Vern Blumhagen	896-3814
SECRETARY:	Laura Olson	896-3298

### BOARD MEMBERS

Bernadette St. Onge-Barnes	896-3640
Dick Barnes	896-3640
Vern Blumhagen	896-3814
Faith Bokros	896-9435
Joyce Brooks	896-3212
Jim Canfield	896-3060
Millie Hass	896-3821
Laura Olson	896-3298
Walter Reim	896-3033
Joyce Wilson	896-0153
Walter W. Wilson	896-0153