



Vida McKenzie Community Center

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR

They came, gathered, listened and when it was over, they took home some very valuable information. Walter Wilson, president of the Vida Community Center welcomed everyone before turning the meeting over to members of the Oregon State Defense Force which included Chuck Bergfeld (recently retire Lt.) and Sgt. Mark Sandefur.



Chuck Bergfeld spoke about what could create major disasters in Oregon: Fires, floods, hazard materials, mud slides and earthquakes were all mentioned. Chuck went on to say that Oregon was way overdue to a major earthquake. One that would equal the one that devastated Japan a short 15 months at the 9.0 level. If that would occur the sea water could reach inland as far as 30 to 40 miles and the height of the wave coming in could be as high as 100 feet, followed by additional waves of less height but still damaging. The real question is; How would this affect the McKenzie River Valley? The jolt or shaking is the valley's worry. With three dams up stream from the majority of the population of the valley, the loss of any one would cause concern. If Carmen Smith should fail, hopefully Cougar Lake and Dam would act as a buffer. This could lead *Cont on P3*



Sgt. Sandefur displayed an example of items that would be good to have in a "to-go" bag.

Annual Christmas Bazaar—December 7th—Walterville Grange



Walter W Wilson

President

I was hoping for a packed house for the emergency preparedness seminar but the thirty two of us that attended came away with some really valuable information. When we started putting

this event together both of our speakers were members of the Oregon State Defense Force. Just prior to the seminar Lt. Chuck Bergfeld retired. He said he was going to continue putting on these types of classes with the help of FEMA. Chuck held our attention with details of different major emergencies that have occurred in the past and recently. What we could expect in Oregon and how long it might take for major help to arrive. An eye opener, which we already know but don't give much thought too, is the time after a disaster occurs before full recovery of the houses, towns and surrounding areas takes. Hurricane Katrina slammed into New Orleans on Aug. 29, 2005. That's a LONG time ago and the area still has not recovered fully. Last year hurricane Sandy hit the east coast, fires burned up almost half of California, flash flooding ripped areas of Colorado and freezing weather in Montana killed thousands of cattle. Sgt. Mark Sandefur spoke on how we can prepare ourselves, our homes and loved ones prior to a disastrous event occurs. How long can food and water be stored? Simple items like a cigarette lighter for starting a fire, a manual can opener, medical supplies, pets and pet food. A plan for the family to do, a place to go, an out of the area family member that everyone knows to contact. Within the emergency area, where to go for shelter, or communications within the disaster area. We all like to think, disasters happen to someone else and someplace else. The question to you, if a dam up river broke, if a firestorm was upon us, would you be prepared?

For the past several years, Bob Welch has Conducted one of his writers workshop at the Center.



Chuck Bergfeld

On Nov. 1st, 29 writers wanting to enhance their skills listened as Bob discussed: Ideas, research, focus, how to begin, writing lean-using active verbs, details, a little humor and bringing in some emotion. Adding to the learning process can an odd noise that continued all day. About every 11 seconds the sound was like the first note of a tuba, coming from the east side of the roof, near the fireplace, lasting about 2-3 second tuba blow, Bob said.

I don't doubt Bob and his findings, the building is old. Could it have been the wind? They had a fire going in the fire place. Maybe that was it! Water flowing through the pipes? Paranormal, or as Bob said, a carryover from Halloween! We did have a little fun responding to Bob with this, but it would be nice to determine where the tuba sounds are really coming from. Thanks Bob for answering the questions.

Halloween was here and before we knew it, it was gone but we had a little fun with it at the Center. Hopefully everyone that used the Center during that time enjoyed the decorations. We'll leave some of the up to help with the Thanksgiving theme before shifting into Christmas time.

And speaking of Christmas time, we are in the planning stage for the December 7th Annual McKenzie Valley Christmas Bazaar. We have a full complement of table vendors, thanks to Linda Schaefer getting an early start on them. Linda will be taking names in case a vendor drops out at the last minutes, so if you might be interested, give her a call at 541 822-3947. Raffle donations are coming in and we hope to exceed over \$2000 in raffle prizes





SEMINAR: to a false sense of safety. If Cougar Lake fills and water starts to over flow the top of the dam, we now have a major problem. Chuck indicated, water flowing over top of a dam tends to pull the dam which could cause a failure.



Safety in the community? Where to go for shelter? Communications around the community can be accomplished using ham radio, FRS and GMRS radios. Primary and secondary radio frequencies need to be established. Can you survive 72 hours without outside

help? Do you have at least 1 gallon of water for each household person for each day? Electrical grid is down, what food do you eat first? All of this and much more kept the attention of those attending.



Sgt. Mark Sandefur spoke on items that would be useful while waiting for help to come. Many items were common everyday things many of us have in our homes: A can opener (non electric), knife, flashlight, battery powered radio, a whistle or air horn to make noise. Shoes and flashlight beside your bed.



There was talk of the ICS, (Incident Command System) and how it works. They identified Linda Cook as the Emergency Manager in Lane County. There was a lot of talk about FEMA and the many thing they can do during an emergency. But they need to be asked for assistance before they can become involved. Rural communities are mostly at a disadvantage in getting help because the major cities will get the assistance first.

It has been proven that communities can handle major emergencies better when members of the community have been trained under the CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) program. Info can be found at: eugenecert.com. The Neighborhood Watch program is another valuable asset to the community during an emergency. For Watch information in the valley, call Vern Blumhagen at 541 896-3814 and he will direct you to the Upper Watch or Deerhorn coordinator.

this year. Sue and Sandy will be handling *Cont p33* **Bazaar:** the snack bar/kitchen area again this year. They may be giving you a call to help serve up some of the delicious looking and tasting dishes. If you haven't volunteered to help set up the tables on the Friday night before, I'll be giving you a call asking for help. We'll have 31 of them to move and set up and then the really fun part begin when we start taking them down Saturday evening when it is all over. The bazaar is a lot of fun but it's a lot of work to make it great for everyone. When started this little adventure in 2003 and world famous candy lady, Nelda Knapp, was there with her candies along with her son Don. She will be working a table again this





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Blast from the past, 2003



and from last year....





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Victim of Identity Theft? What to do Next

Identity Theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America. If you are a victim of Identity Theft that means someone is using your name and identifying information to steal your identity.

Once the crime is discovered, the crook moves on to his or her next victim, oftentimes leaving you and other victims to deal with the fraudulent debts.

If you are a victim, taking the following steps will help reduce monetary damages and time spent cleaning up your credit:

Contact the three major credit reporting bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) and request a fraud alert be placed on your credit file.

Request and audit a free annual copy of your credit report to make sure no new unwanted activity has occurred.

Place a credit security freeze on your credit file, preventing new credit accounts from being opened in your name. Make sure to remove the freeze when you are ready to apply for credit.

If you are the victim of identity theft and haven't already done so, file a police report as you may need this documentation to prove the theft.

To permanently remove fraudulent information from your credit reports, send a copy of the police report and written dispute to the credit reporting bureaus.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) online at www.FTCComplaintAssistant.gov or call (877) 438-4338.

* * *

The LCSO Crime Prevention Home Security Evaluations are going very well. The volunteers have been very busy and are providing residents with an objective evaluation of their homes. A common reaction by home owners during the evaluations is, "I had never thought about that". That is the very reason the volunteers are reaching out to County residents. If you want to receive a no cost security evaluation of your home contact the LCSO Crime Prevention Team at 541-682-4296 or go to www.lanecountysheriff.org to request an evaluation on-line.

*Editor's note: As a result of placing the Sheriff's bulletin in last months newsletter, one member from Vida and from the Deerhorn Neighborhood Watch organizations volunteered to be a Home Security Evaluator.

* * *

Did you know there are 20 sanctioned Neighborhood Watch groups within LCSO? In addition, the County has many other groups who are also very organized but not "sanctioned" through LCSO. Whether sanctioned or not, all of the groups essentially provide the basic services of neighborhood watch. They are active, organized, maintain communication with neighbors, and committed to be observant of, and report crime, or suspicious circumstances. Thank you all for making a difference in our community.

* * *

It has been a very busy couple of weeks in LCSO. I encourage you all to call or email me if you have a question or need info.



McKENZIE FIRE & RESCUE



38925 McKenzie Hwy, Springfield, OR 97478

Office: 541-896- Emergency: 911

Matt Brooks, Firefighter/ EMT-I
mbrooks@mckenziefire.com



News. EWEB will be closing the Leaburg Dam bridge to traffic for repairs next month. **Proposed closure dates and times are: 11/25/2013 – 1/03/2014 Daytime Weekdays from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.** They will be coordinating with us when this happens. We will have fire apparatus staged on the other side of the bridge during this time as well as a much slower “back-way” in. Look for more information in the upcoming weeks on our webpage at www.mckenziefire.com

I have begun placing the 8 AED defibrillators in public places in our district. Currently, McKenzie Golf Course, Walterville Elementary, and McKenzie Elementary all have new AEDs for improved public safety. If you're interested in learning CPR and how to use one of these life saving devices, let me know – mbrooks@mckenziefire.com

Calls. During the month of October, we responded to nearly 30 medical calls, over 10 motor vehicle accidents, 5 fire calls, and 1 vehicle fire. It is shaping up to be a busy year for us but we are better prepared than ever with over 60 volunteers, current staff of 4, 6 students providing 24 hour coverage, and 10 new volunteers. Public safety is our priority.



McKenzie Fire Staff Members: (L-R) Firefighter Matt Brooks, Maintenance Officer Bart Thompson, Training Officer David Sherwood, and Fire Chief Darren Bucich

Training. Fitness and agility! This month you might see firefighters in full gear with air packs and masks on hustling around outside our station in Leaburg. Each year we are required to do an agility course which involves completing a circuit of tasks within allotted time. The circuit includes climbing the 3 story training tower with a hose bundle, raising and lowering another hose bundle on a rope, placing and climbing a ladder, using a sledgehammer, lifting a 40lb fan, dragging a 150lb mannequin, and then pulling 150ft of hose – all while wearing about 60lbs of gear. It's not too difficult but we like to challenge each other and try to improve our own personal times each year. You might be surprised to know that the number 1 killer of firefighters is heart attack – usually men, and usually over the age of 50. Without proper diet and exercise, firefighters are at risk of cardiac problems whenever strenuous physical activity is required. That's why most of your local responders exercise and don't eat a lot of fast food. We want to help at emergencies, not become one ourselves. As always, be safe.

Have you heard our sirens and wondered what's happening? Go to our webpage www.mckenziefire.com and click on the “Radio Feed” gadget to listen to our radio traffic.

Remember, the new station phone number is: 541 896-3311.

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Vida Cafe

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Vida area: - - - - Vern Blumhagen— 896-3814
McKenzie Bridge: - - - Frank Geiger— 822-3543

McKenzie River Yoga

Tuesday Evenings 5:30pm

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SPONSORSHIP OF BINGO GAMES

The Center is looking for individuals, businesses and groups that would like to support the Center and donate a Bingo prize for one or more games each month.

For additional information about this sponsorship please call: Vern at 541 896-3814 or email to:

We're still looking for a few more good members. Know someone who might have an interest? Let us know and we'll drop them a newsletter.

WINTER T-SHIRT SALE

The front of the T-shirt has a small logo printed on it as pictured top right.

The back has a very nice full design

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\$6.00ea

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1 shirt add \$3.00
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Your business card printed here for a donation of \$10.00 per issue or pay for a year in advance for only \$35.00.

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BINGO

Vida Community Center

2nd Saturday Monthly

Doors open at 6:15—Games begin at 7pm
We got the best snack bar on the river.

"Where friends and families meet for a fun time"

Sew and So's

Quilt and Needle Crafters of the McKenzie Valley. Meets noon to 4pm the first Monday of every month at the Vida Community Center.

Call Sara at 896-3059 for info.

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For rental information call 541 822-3947



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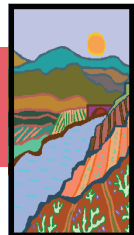
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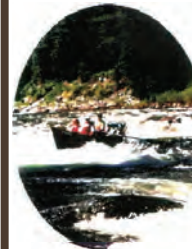
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THE "CENTER" IS LOOKING FOR SOME HELP

We could use a helping hand at our Saturday night Bingo games.

Snack Bar, setting up and serving: Give Pat Sherfield a call at 541 988-9735.

Bingo Callers. Give Walt Wilson a call at 541 896-0153

Money Takers: Give Vern Blumhagen a call at 541 896-3814

Thanks for being a friend of the Vida McKenzie Community Center. If you have not sent in your membership dues, please take a moment, print out this page and sent it to us. Your membership is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Walter W. Wilson

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2013

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Spouse Name _____

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Leaburg Dam closure

An EWEB repair project at the Leaburg Dam will require the intermittent closure of the road across the dam to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic beginning as soon as Dec. 2, 2013 and continuing through at least Jan. 17, 2014.

Why repairs are necessary

The Leaburg Dam features three roll gates, which regulate the volume of water spilled from the dam. The motor that controls the No. 2 roll gate failed in early 2012. Attempts to repair the motor in place were not successful, and it was removed in June 2012. The roll gate has remained in the "closed" or "down" position since the motor failed.

Work plan

EWEB intends to install a new motor and gear box for the roll gate in the summer of 2014. Prior to that installation, EWEB must erect a bulkhead immediately upstream of the No. 2 roll gate in order to isolate it from Leaburg Lake. The bulkhead structure will allow EWEB and its contractor to open and inspect the No. 2 roll gate safely and without causing the sudden drainage of Leaburg Lake.

Installation of the bulkhead will begin on or after Dec. 2 and could take several weeks. During the work, all access across the dam will be prohibited from 8 a.m. to noon, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. During the closure periods, no vehicle or pedestrian access across the dam will be allowed.

It is likely that the first two to three weeks will require closures Monday through Friday, followed by periodic weekday access restrictions.

Emergency planning

EWEB is working in partnership with McKenzie Fire & Rescue to stage emergency vehicles on the east side of the dam to respond to emergencies during the closures. Should a life-threatening emergency occur during a closure period, EWEB and its contractor will clear the dam as quickly as possible.



Estimated closure dates

All vehicle and pedestrian access across the Leaburg Dam will be prohibited:

- **Dates:** Dec. 2-Jan. 17, Monday through Friday
- **Times:** 8 a.m. to noon/1 to 4 p.m.