



2015

Vida McKenzie Community Center

V14.1

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Where did the time go? Better yet, where did the year go? Yep, it's that time of the year again when we ask you to join us as we move forward during the year 2015.

I'm always amazed as I look back to our beginning in 2000 and take note of how many of you were there, in the beginning, when the Community Center was formed. As with many organizations, members come and go as interests change in our lives, but we have been very fortunate to maintain many who have pitched in to make the Center what it is today. I thank each of you for your dedication and continued support of the Center.

During the past 14 years we have continued to offer a low membership rate and we offer the same low rate again this year. While the membership rate is low, it does help us continue to provide many of the necessary expenses to keep the Center up and running.

Along with your dues, many of you have continued to provide us with addition funds for building and property upgrades. Friends of the Center have been very generous during 2014. These additional funds have helped us maintain and upgrade the building each year.

Thank you, please join us as we proceed through 2015.

VERN BLUMHAGEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Community Center Board Members at the November meeting agreed to create and fund an annual Vern Blumhagen Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship will be for those students already in college with studies in the science and technology field. Students applying may be required to provide several hours of community support and participate in an interview by members of the Community Center. The first scholarship will be awarded in 2015.

The donations received for the Vern Blumhagen Memorial Fund were very generous. Portions of the fund will be added to the original memorial scholarship amount each year until the fund is depleted.

Those wishing to help support the Vern Blumhagen Memorial Scholarship fund may send donations to: Vida Community Center, PO Box 163, Vida, OR 97488, Attn: Vern Blumhagen Memorial Fund.

The Center is also sponsoring a second scholarship for a deserving McKenzie High School graduate entering studies leading to a 2 or 4 year college degree.

Take a moment, fill out the membership form and drop it in the mail.



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Walter W Wilson, President

I'm looking forward to see what 2015 has in store for us at the Center. Usually we look to some major enhancement either interior or exterior. There is always some painting project to be taken care of to keep up the fresh appearance of the Center. The parking lot and driveway needs to be refreshed after a year of vehicle traffic and winter storms as well as the annual cleanup around the Center to get rid of the winter debris. As we get past the coolness of the spring the Late Bloomers Garden Club members will be attacking the flower beds around the building to bring forth the color of flowers. I always en-



joy the colorful flowers the Garden Club members plant to enhance the appearance of the Center. I'm looking forward to seeing what they have in store for the Center this year.

Overall 2014 was a good year for the Center. We paid our bills, gained a few new members and had another successful Christmas Bazaar fundraiser. The community continues to enjoy and support our monthly bingo games. The monthly rental of the Center is down a little but we have continued to provide financial support to community organizations as well as fund scholarships for McKenzie High School graduates. The Center has also been able to set aside money for a rainy day fund. This could not happen without the support of our mem-

bership and the McKenzie Valley community.

From one of our McKenzie High School Scholarships recipients we received the following: *"Thank you very much for awarding me your scholarship! I will be using it to help with my expenses at the University of Oregon this year. Thanks you again, Bailey Adams"*. That makes it all worth while.

During the year we received about a dozen cards and letters from users of the Center thanking us for maintaining such a wonderful place for use by the community.

In 2014 the Center was struck with great sadness, when two of the founding members of the Center passed away. On Oct. 27th, Vern Blumhagen our money man, friend and treasurer passed. The Board appointed Allen Winter to the Treasurer and Board position. Before we had time to settle down, Laura Olson passed away on Dec. 31st. Laura was also one of the original officers of the Center, the records gal, our Secretary. The loss of Vern and Laura has been a major jolt to the operations of the Center. Their years of experience and dedication are greatly missed. Hopefully we will have some members from the community join our band of volunteers and help lead the Center.

Spring has sprung and we are ready to get rolling. But first I am sad to announce that long time Board Member Becky Holmes has decided to resign. Many of you will remember Becky from her Fire Department days. Becky was a true supporter of the Center assisting with our monthly bingo games, putting together raffle baskets, working at our major fundraiser, the Christmas Bazaar and helping guide the Community Center to the very positive position it is in today. *Becky, I am sad to see you leaving us. I appreciate all the support you have given the Center, the community and to me through the years. Thank you..*

With Laura's position and now Becky's, we are looking for two community members to step forward and assist us in keeping the Center moving in a positive direction. To be considered for the Board, the person must be a member for at least one year. Our annual membership meeting will be held on Saturday, May 9th, 10am. We'll have coffee and snacks

BINGO NIGHT - 2nd SATURDAY MONTHLY - Doors open 6:15pm—Games at 7:00pm
"we've got best food, desserts, good coffee, cold drinks, great friends and games in the valley"



and it will be a time for meeting old friends and new neighbors of the community. As usual, it will be election time for the Officers and several Board members and new Board members.

FUNDRAISER FOR THE CENTER: On May 1, 2, and 3rd the McKenzie River Artist's Guild will present their 25th Annual "Art Show & Sale" at the Leaburg Fire & Training Center in Leaburg. They are asking the Vida Community Center folks to provide BBQ'd chicken for those attending and maybe some dinners to take home. We're going to set up our large BBQ pit, load it with several hundred pounds of charcoal, place the chicken in giant racks and let the wonderful smell of BBQ'd chicken do the selling. This fundraiser is a great opportunity for the Center to add additional funding toward scholarships.

The BBQ chicken will be cooked and sold only on one day, Saturday. Many of you have tasted the BBQ chicken at the yearly Vida Neighborhood Watch picnic or at the Walterville Grange in past years as well as the McKenzie River Lions Festival. Volunteers are needed as it will take a couple of guys working the BBQ for several hours and several more assisting with packaging and selling the dinners. Ann Penny and the McKenzie River Lions volunteers have as offered to assist with the preparation and serving of the food. With a few more volunteers we can make this a successful fundraiser. All the proceeds from the sale of the chicken will go to the Center. I'm always looking to the membership for help. Could you help? Give me a call or drop me an email: 541 521-5900 - - walter1ww@aol.com.

In addition to the generous donations to our upgrade fund mentioned earlier, we have been fortunate to receive a very generous donation from an anonymous member.

And from another member, a professional private chef, comes an offer to do a couple of fundraising dinners at the Community Center, maybe a spring time and Harvest Dinner in October.

We are very fortunate to have so many wonderful people in our community.

Celebration of Life

Laura Maxine Olson

June 16, 1927 - December 31, 2014

On Saturday, April 11th, family, friends, loved ones, neighbors and honored guests gathered at the George Millican Community Center/Walterville Grange in Walterville to reflect on the life of Laura.

Judy Olson made arrangements for a large meeting room in anticipation of standing room only in remembrance of Laura. She also arranged for lunch (thanks to Bernadette Fleischer) enjoyed by those attending with foods Laura enjoyed.

Laura's cousin's Lisa Rogers-Potter, Jim Rogers, Sharon Wilford and members of their family were in attendance. Additional honored guest included Peter DeFazio, Chris Wig, Robert Lee, Edward Fadeley and many more. Walter Wilson welcomed everyone and lead the service. Many guests reflected upon their involvement in Laura's life. Laura's life touched many, including: Presidents, Congressmen, her work at the United Nations, Democratic Committee, Wayne Morris Park Board, Lane County Roads Board, Rural Library Board, Neighborhood Watch, Vida Community Center, housekeeper, neighbors, friends and family. Laura touched and reacted with them all in a way that only Laura could, with kindness and a smile.

One of the guests, Edward Fadeley, retired Oregon State Supreme Court Judge said it all, "There are three important items when you read an obituary of a person. Their name, the date of birth and the date of their death. There is a dash between the dates and that little dash contains the most important bit of information. That dash represents the persons life, from birth to death and everything in between. Laura had a very productive and fulfilling life." He then challenged everyone as he looked around the room, "I will do something to remember Laura. Will you?"

Late Bloomers Garden Club Annual Plant Sale
JUNE 18th
at the Vida Community Center



1995



2014

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&
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**McKenzie River
Yoga**

Returning soon

All Ages Welcome — Beginner to Master
Vida Community Center — Information 541 896-3009

Spring McKenzie River Artisan Faire

Held on Saturday, April 25th at the Vida Community Center. Local Artsans and Hand Crafter's will have display of various items including acrylic, oil watercolor and more.



Your business card printed here for a donation of \$10.00 per issue or pay for a year in advance for only \$35.00.
Send your card and payment to: VMCC, PO Box 163, Vida, Oregon 97488

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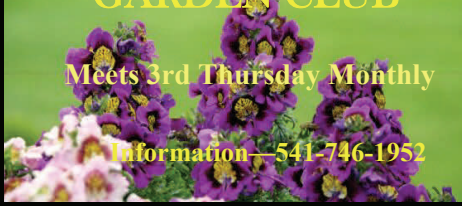
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We Support Sight, Hearing, Diabetes, and Community Service Programs; and Present your Summer Festival
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Late Bloomers Garden Club Annual Plant Sale June 18th

At the Vida Community Center
 90377 Thomson Lane, Vida
 For additional information, call Kay 541 746-1952

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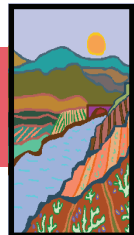
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VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Walter W Wilson 521-5900
 VICE PRESIDENT: Dawn Neilsen 896-3036
 TREASURER: Allen Winter 916 919-7672
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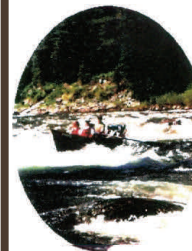
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THE "CENTER" IS LOOKING FOR SOME HELP

We could use a helping hand at our monthly 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 541 521-5900

Money Takers: Give Walt Wilson a call at 541 521-5900

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Thanks for being a friend of the Vida McKenzie Community Center. . Your membership is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Walter W. Wilson

walter1ww@aol.com

McKenzie River Artist's Guild presents their 25th Annual

ART SHOW & SALE & COMMUNITY BBQ

May 1, 2, and 3, 2015

10:00 to 5:00 pm each day

Leaburg Fire & Training Center



"Poppy Garden" by Janet Biles



Corlyss McCullough

8 artists will show their works of art in various mediums including jewelry, watercolor, oil, acrylic, colored pencil, painted glass and more.

Vida Community Center will have a fundraiser providing BBQ'd chicken feed Saturday from noon until gone.



Joyce Hubbard

Refreshments of Coffee, tea and cookies will be served.

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Bingo Callers. Give Walt Wilson a call at 541 521-5900

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Thanks for being a friend of the Vida McKenzie Community Center. .
Your membership is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Walter W. Wilson

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please Print this page and Send in your Membership

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name_____

Spouse Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Telephone_____Email_____

Household dues at \$10.00 per year. Good until May 2015

Any amount received over \$10.00 will go toward the building fund

Vida Community Center is a 501(c)3 corporation, your donations may be tax deductible

Thank you for your support

VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

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