



## *Vida McKenzie Community Center*

**WINTER 2010**

**Vol. 9 No. 4**

### **FUN TIME AT THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**



We had Santa's Helpers, Santa, the best food and desserts, a great variety of vendors plus all our friends and neighbors in the Valley



No rain or snow for this years event. Just coolness of the morning on that December 4th day as the doors for the annual McKenzie Valley Christmas Bazaar opened around 7:30am. Friends and neighbors strolled in, the smell of fresh brewed coffee filled the Grange as they (cont. page 2)

**Have some fun at the weekly and monthly activities at the Center**

SEW & SO's \* YOGA \* NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH \* BINGO  
LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB \* BUNCO \* POKER

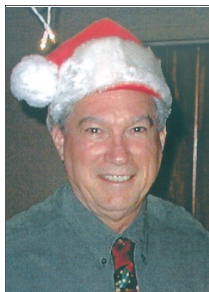


# Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

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WINTER

2010



## Walter Wilson

President, Vida McKenzie Community Center

It seems like I was just writing about the Bazaar of last year and we just complete the one for this year. The ole saying of "time goes fast when you are having fun" or "the older you get the faster time goes", truer words were never spoken. I guess it's a little bit of both for me. The bazaar is a fun time and an event the community really enjoys. As I looked over the crowd at the bazaar, I saw vendors smiling, I heard the buzz of conversation and laughter from friends and neighbors as they greeted each other like long lost friends. There were children running too and fro, parents carrying the younger ones waiting for the arrival of Santa. Bags of goodies were being carried out and the tables in the kitchen area was always full of people eating some of the delicious food from the snack bar or just visiting with friends.

Becky Holmes and I handled the calling of the raffle names. There were lots of raffle prizes including eateries along the river, golf, overnight stays at casinos, trips to the coast and prizes donated by many of the vendors. We had a unique prize to raffle, a new T-shirt that was worn by the Cougar Room softball team. Some old timers may remember the Cougar Room in Blue River with fond memories.

The bazaar is a good fundraiser for the Center and it was a success.

Major projects around the Center have slowed down. We completed a couple of projects such as covering the Bingo board, thanks to Hal Stein and the painting of trim around the windows. Both of these projects spruced the place up a little. Sometime this year we plan to begin some major improvement to the kitchen area. Our building may also be in need of some foundation stabilization in the near future.

It has been a good year. The rental of the Center continues to increase. Groups like the Sew&So's, YOGA, Neighborhood Watch, Poker, Late Bloomers Garden Club, Bunco use the Center on a weekly and monthly basis. We are in the process of joining the McKenzie Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Your membership is important to us. Thanks for your continued support.



**FROM PAGE 1:** looked around at four rows of tables that displayed all sorts of Christmas gift items. The kitchen area included two more rows of vendor tables. The snack bar was loaded with food and desserts that made ones mouth water. That was just the beginning of a fun day for those who had tables and items displayed. Thanks to the many members of the Vida Community Center that helped make the event the success it was.



The real beginning was Friday evening with the setup of vendor tables. It looked pretty bleak before the vendors began arriving to set up their displays.



Saturday morning looked like the morning rush of people going to work in Eugene. Vendors were trying to find their tables and bringing their goods in, VMCC helpers were rushing around to get the snack bar up and operational and everyone was wanting a cup of coffee and a donut to jump start their day. On the stage, the Christmas tree was sparkling with colored lights and Santa's chair was awaiting his arrival. Walt had the music of the season piped into the PA system for everyone to enjoy.

The bazaar was set to open at 9:00AM. Shortly after 8:00AM, with vendors still setting up their goods, the people began to arrive. The snack bar began serving cakes, pies, cookies, hotdogs, chili and bowls of some of the best tasting soup along the river from Aunt Dings restaurant.

Many members helped to make this another success: Hal Stein, Mike and Becky Holmes, Mike and Faith Bokros, Will Rutherford, Linda Schaefer, Vern Blumhagen, Sue Ala, Sandy Wright, Pat Sherfield, Dawn Nielsen, Eleanor Rodakowski, Laura Olson, Joyce and Walt Wilson, Don Bumgarner, Andrea Cunningham and Sue Dewson.



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**Santa was kept busy with all ages of the young at heart**




## YOGA AT THE CENTER

McKenzie River Yoga invites you to join them every Tuesday at 6:30pm. Join your friends and neighbors and come take advantage of having yoga right here in the McKenzie Valley! Is Yoga for you? Yes, it is for everyone regardless of age. Join Emily and other friends of the community.

**FIRST TIMERS, IT'S FREE**

Want to rent the community center? Give Linda a call at 822-3947





AARP Driver Safety Program

Take the 8-hour classroom refresher course

## STOP

especially designed for drivers age 50 and over.

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**April 18th and 20th**

**12:30 pm to 4:30 pm each day**

**Vida Community Center**  
**90377 Thomson Lane**  
**Vida**

**MUST PREREGISTER BY CALLING**  
**Laura Olson 896-3298 or Sue McKinney 896-3879**

**\$14.00**

A discounted fee of \$12.00 for current AARP member who bring their AARP cards to registration for validation

TO REGISTER PLACE/LOCAL SPONSOR TIME DATE(S)

Upon completion of the course a certificate is issued for your insurance verification. Class size is limited so early registration is recommended. If you are not an AARP member and wish to join you can call 1-800-950-2724 or go on line at [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org) and stated the process early to insure your membership is activated prior to the class date.



AARP Driver Safety Program

## Public Meeting

Thursday, February 10th, 6:30pm,  
Leaburg Fire Station

Clearwater Coalition (CWC) is hosting this public meeting. Come for an update on issues, provide input to action plans and ask questions of guest speaker Faye Stewart, Chairperson Lane County Board of Commissioners.

## Goodpasture Bridge Lighting

All the meetings, leg-work and gathering of nine advocacy letters that Vern Blumhagen and Walter Wilson did over the past couple of years came to a halt when the bridge was declared unsafe for heavy loads.

A couple of days ago Vern received a telephone call from Bill Morgan (Lane County) who stated "they are putting the permanent exterior bridge lighting project into the planning for the upgrade to improve the weight capacity of the bridge". Hooray!!

## OREGON RURAL TOURISM STUDIO PROGRAM in the MCKENZIE VALLEY

Feb 22, 2011—May 18, 2011

Oregon's Rural Tourism Studio, offered by Travel Oregon starting this February in the McKenzie River Valley, is now open for registration. A series of tourism development workshops offering customized training for harnessing regional opportunities aim to stimulate the local economy, protect and enhance local resources, and foster new connections and local pride. Community leaders, business entrepreneurs, tour operators, lodging property owners, land managers, outdoor enthusiasts, restaurateurs, event producers and anyone with an interest in strengthening the local economy.

The Rural Tourism Studio brings eight days of training:

**Feb 22nd**, Tourism Development, Part 1, 4pm-8pm

**Feb 23rd**, Tourism Planning, Part 2 —9am-4pm

**Mar15th**, Tourism Development — 9am-4pm

**Mar15th Event:** Evening for Entrepreneurs 6pm-9pm Local resources for starting or growing your tourism-related business

**Mar 16th**, Bicycle Tourism Development 9am-4pm

**April 19th**, Cultural Heritage Tourism — 9am-4pm

**April 20th**, Agri-tourism Development — 9am-4pm

**May 17th**, Rural Tourism Marketing — 9am-4pm

**May 18th**, Fundraising for Tourism — 9am-4pm

**May 18th, Event:** Community Tourism Kickoff! 5pm-7pm Participants share their vision of tourism for the region and celebrate completion

**Location:** McKenzie River Mountain Resort, 51668 Blue River Dr., Blue River, 541-822-6272 or [www.MckenzieRiverMountainResort.com](http://www.MckenzieRiverMountainResort.com). Lodging is 50% off on event days for those participants who need to travel.

The events are free, there is a \$5.00 fee for each workshop to cover meal cost.

It is recommended that participants attend all workshops. Space is limited to 35 participants per workshop. The program has been designed specifically for the McKenzie River Valley.

**To register:** <http://Industry.TravelOregon.com/RTS>

**For questions:** George Letchworth, 541-822-3744 or [geoletch@aol.com](mailto:geoletch@aol.com).

**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"**

# Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

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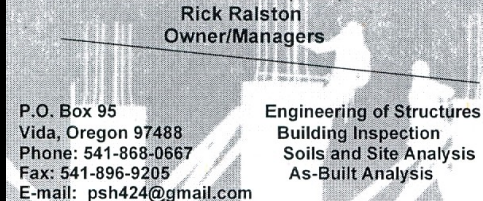


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**Lane Electric Cooperative**  
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Pat 896-3761 Eugene Office 484-1151



**Help Prevent Crime**

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Phone: 541-896-3289  
 Open 7 days a week  
 7:00am - 7:00pm

Closed on Thanksgiving & Christmas

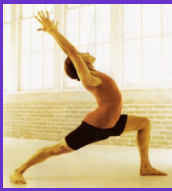


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**McKenzie River Yoga**

Tuesday Evenings 6:30pm  
 Seeking Students and Teachers  
 Vida Community Center—Information 541 896-3009

Keep in touch - with the Valley's newspaper

**McKenzie River Reflections**

59059 Old McKenzie Hwy.  
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# Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

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## Join your friends at the McKenzie River Lions

 We Support Sight, Hearing, Diabetes, and Community Service Programs and Present your Summer Festival   
**You're Welcome at our Semi-Monthly Meetings the 2nd and 4th Monday of each Month at 6:30 pm at Ike's Lakeside Pizza**

## 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"**

## Finn Rock Grill

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## 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 Pat at 896-0199 for info.

## VIDA TEXAS HOLD'EM

It's been called the McKenzie Valley World Series of Poker  
Vida Community Center  
Tournaments held every 4th Wednesday each month at 6pm

## LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB

Meets 3rd Thursday Monthly

Information—746-9020



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## VIDA MCKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

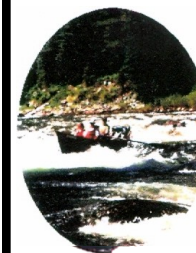
### OFFICERS

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VICE PRESIDENT: Dawn Neilsen 896-3036  
TREASURER: Vern Blumhagen 896-3814  
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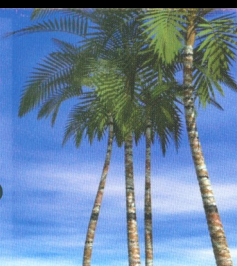
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