

Way Past Dreaming



2022

Vida McKenzie Community Center

V22.2

WOW! A GREAT COUPLE OF MONTHS

For months there was nothing but flat dirt where the old building stood. Along came the June 17, 2022, "Ground Breaking" time and things began to happen. With shovel in hand Craig Gustafson (VMCC's Project Manager) handled the dirty work and put the shovel to ground while VMCC Board Members Sherry Jones, Ann Penny, Gerry Aster, Faith Bokros and Tammy Pelton looked on, Craig got the dirt moving.

645 day's, but who's counting since the Holiday Farm Fire and shovel hitting the dirt. You can bet VMCC Board Member's are counting and have been since day 1. When VMCC President Walter Wilson learned that his home had burned and later that the Center also was in ruin, within weeks he set things in motion for the recovery of his home and that of the Center. He asked VMCC Vice President Gerry Aster to take the lead on the rebuilding process of the Center.

We were still under the Covid restrictions, Board meetings were called for to get the rebuild process moving forward. With the help of Tammy Pelton and other Board members, fundraisers and community gathering began to come together. We knew that insurance funds were not going to allow us to rebuild the Center. Gerry lead the team as the search for rebuild funds began. It was understood that fundraising locally would be great but we would have to look outside our community for grants to met our rebuilding needs. Fundraiser's began to fill a date on each month of the calendar and our community really responded and enjoyed the many different events.

Our McKenzie Valley community and friends outside our valley area were truly generous in support of the Community Center. Grants, small, medium and large became Gerry's focus. A lot of blood, sweat and tears when into this process along with long days and nights and many rewrites. As the grant work continued we began to see the results: Ford Foundation, Oregon Community Credit Union, Chambers Family Foundation, Auzten Foundation, Jacqueline Giustina Foundation, Weyerhaeuser, Oregon Community Foundation, American Endowment Foundation, Ford Foundation, Late Boomers Garden Club, with assistance from Oregon State Representative Cedric Hayden and Oregon State Senator Floyd Prozanski the Federal ARPA funds and the list continues and grows.



Membership Meeting Saturday October 15th



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Walter W. Wilson, President

Pretty soon there will be framing, walls, roof and a door way where we may walk inside and think of the old days while see our future. An the fun begins. We've already had requests for rentals, that's exciting.

The pictures show a busy month from setting up for the foundation to stem walls.



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING..... Saturday October 15th at 11am.

We are looking forward to holding our meetings at our rebuilt Community Center but this year it will be held at the **McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88983 Walterville Loop, Walterville**. The white church where the water canal crosses the McKenzie Highway.

We will be talking about the Community Center rebuild, the exciting things we will see as the framing starts, our new and improved driveway entrance, funding and much more.

We have two administrative positions to vote on and fill: the Vice President and a Board Member position. As a member please take a moment, complete the enclosed ballot with your vote and place it in the US Mail. Your ballot must reach the Vida Post Office prior to Oct. 14, 2022. Gerry Aster is on the ballot for Vice President. Gerry is a long time member of the Center. She has done an outstanding job of leading the rebuild of the Center. Kim Esser is on the ballot to continue as a Board Member. Kim was one of original Board Members in 2000. She is dedicated, brings a lot of energy and freely gives her time.

We are always looking for people interested in helping direct the forward movement of our Center. If this is something you might be interested in, let's talk. Join the fun!



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Your business card printed here for a donation of \$15.00 per issue or a year for only \$50.00.
Send your business card and payment to: VMCC, PO Box 163, Vida, Oregon 97488

WANT TO HELP WITH OUR FUNDRAISERS.

We can always use a helping hand.

Give Gerry a call at 541 896-3001 or Tammy a call at 951 970-0176

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

Thank you,
Walter W. Wilson

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please Support the Center, be a Member

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Spouse Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Household dues at \$25.00 per year, May to May.

Any amount received over \$25.00 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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