



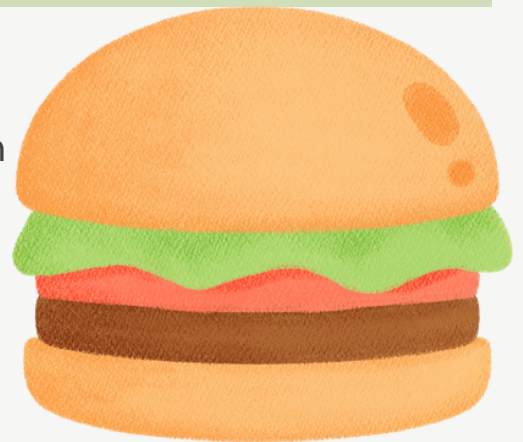
# VMCC Newsletter

VIDA MCKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

## Membership Meeting

Our next Membership Meeting will be on Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>. Come and join us for some hamburgers and hotdogs. Share your ideas/questions/concerns with the Board of Directors and chat with your fellow neighbors.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept, 12, 2026

The McKenzie Celebration at Jones Track in Blue River.

We will be "Scooping Ice Cream for the VMCC. We will also have an information booth. Stop by and say hello.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**OCT 31<sup>ST</sup> HALLOWEEN**  
**COSTUME PARTY**

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**Senior Center**

August Lunches will  
be hosted by Shelly  
Pruitt and crew.

**Bingo Aug. 8th**

Come and have some fun.  
Our Golden Ticket jackpot is  
up to \$550.00 which is  
sponsored by "The Bottle  
Boys"

**Little League Poker**

Meets every Tuesday  
Night. Doors open at  
4:00 p.m. for Dealers; choice and  
Texas Holdem' starts at 6:00 p.m.

**SAIL Program**

Meets every Friday at 10:00 a.m

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Well it looks like Summer is finally here. I hope that you all are able to get out and do something fun. Go somewhere you have never been before or go to that special place you love the most.

The VMCC Board of Directors is hard at work getting our Interest only loan refinanced into a fixed rate loan that will be a better fit for the center in the long run. We only have \$200,000 plus interest to pay off and I am sure that we can do it within 5 years or less. We plan to make double payments and throw as much money as possible towards the principal. We are waiting on the final appraisal of the property and closing should be coming soon.

We are also cutting down some dead dangerous trees, so the next time you come to the center you should see the major changes. Our plans to plant 2 trees, one for Walt Wilson and one for Gerry Aster, are still in the works after the dead trees are removed.

Have a wonderful Summer and see you around the center.

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## **WHY WE NEED VOLUNTEERS**

For the last 6 years or more we have had about 5 or 6 people on the Board who are doing all the work that it takes to operate this community center.

The Board Members are not paid and are spending anywhere from 10 to 40 hour per month or more, doing what is necessary for the VMCC to stay open. This is a new and completely different center than it was before the fire and it has a whole new set of operating rules and regulations that we have to follow.

These Board members are doing;

- All the fundraising,
- Hiring workers for the Senior Center and to keep the place clean, and maintained,
- Doing the laundry,
- Doing the shopping,
- Paying the bills so we can keep the lights on,
- Preparing publications and emails so that everyone stays informed,
- Hosting the monthly Bingos and sometimes using our own money to pay for food and drinks,
- We also spend time during the weekends to set up at various venues to promote the VMCC.,
- We set up and prepare meals to feed 35-40 people and then clean up afterwards,
- We spend our evenings preparing and writing grants in hopes of receiving funding for our various programs or balancing the 4 bank accounts.

To speak frankly, we need more help. We have several Board members who are suffering burn out or they have major health issues. But instead of quitting, and seeing the VMCC fail, they are sucking it up. Would you PLEASE consider helping out? Even if it is a one time thing, like helping with Bingo. Or maybe you are a handy type person and can come and change the air filters four times a year.

It all matters. It all helps. This is everyone's community center.

# Business Member Spotlight

## Kody Gabriel - Rooted Elements Massage

Hi, I'm Kody, owner and licensed massage therapist at Rooted Elements Massage Therapy in Eugene, Oregon. I'm committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive space where everyone feels seen, safe, and supported.

My own journey has deepened my understanding of the connection between stress, life transitions, and the body's need for healing. I believe massage is more than relieving physical pain –it's an opportunity to slow down, reconnect with yourself, and support your nervous system in finding balance.

Rooted Elements was created from a desire to offer compassionate, personalized care that helps clients rest, restore, and rejuvenate. Whether you're navigating chronic pain, stress, burnout, or simply seeking a moment of peace, my goal is to provide a grounded and inclusive environment where healing can unfold naturally.

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## OREGON | DETAIL

### Oregon Detail Co - Eugene's Trusted Name in Auto Detailing

Founded by Tanner Broady in 2016, Oregon Detail Co has grown into Eugene's go-to shop for meticulous, appointment-only auto detailing. Every vehicle is serviced fully indoors, protecting your paint from the elements while our team works – and every job is Carfax-certified, so there's a verified record of the care your vehicle receives.

Services that go beyond a standard wash and wax: ceramic coating, paint correction, paint protection film (PPF), headlight restoration, and specialty RV detailing round out a full menu built for owners who want their vehicles looking (and staying) their best. Whether it's a daily driver or a weekend cruiser, Oregon Detail can help.

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(541) 968-2804

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**AUTO CRAFT**  
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SPRINGFIELD 541-747-1616  
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# BUSINESS MEMBERS



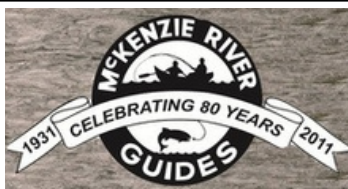
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*By appointment only*  
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Mark Mitchell - McKenzie Bridge  
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Custom forged meat cleavers,  
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**Jeff Calavan, Maker**

# NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS



Thank you Mark and Linda for joining our Community Center! Welcome to the Mckenzie River Valley as your new home!

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## OTHER NEWS

### PET CALENDAR FUNDRAISER

We are happy to announce that all of the spots have been sold. Calendars will be ready by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 . Place your order soon, before we sell out.

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### October Tree Removal Project

We are planning significant work around the center in October, before winter weather sets in. Five large Douglas fir trees need to be removed because they were affected by HFF.

A tree specialist has recommended removing the trees before they fall and cause damage to the building or boat landing.

Coordination Needed

This will be an ongoing project that requires coordination among:

- VMCC
- Lane County Parks Department
- Neighboring property owners to the east

If you have any questions, you can contact Shelly Pruitt at [spruitt@vidacommunitycenter.com](mailto:spruitt@vidacommunitycenter.com)

**SAVE THE DATE**



Vida McKenzie  
Community Center  
**HALLOWEEN  
COSTUME  
PARTY**



We're planning a soiree, and your  
presence is requested.



Save the Date

Saturday • **31** • October

Food, Prizes and Fun!



## **Clean up day at VMCC**

**Community isn't built by a building—it's built by people."**

**Jim Goodpasture, Nancy Ashley, Carol Ach, Wade Schofield, Brad Kumm, Jon Payne, Margo B, Ray Curry, Jake, Kelly, Graham, Malcom Pelroy, Treasa Abbot, Shelly Pruitt. (And a few I missed.)**

**These wonderful people came to give time to help with the hard work of the landscaping. Tools in hand the volunteers turned on the sprinkler system and checked to make sure it was working correctly. They weeded around the native plantings around the property line and cleared the hillside. A lot of debris was an unsightly mess and posed a fire hazard. We removed three large trailer loads and one flatbed truck full! Both upper and lower parts of the property were cleared.**

**This was the first of several work parties we are planning to keep the property in shape to keep the centers' land looking beautiful and keeping it maintained. This native planting was made possible because of the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation grant awarded in 2023. The VMCC has planted these native fire wise shrubs and trees to restore and beautify the area after the HFF. Look for the new sign that will be installed explaining the plantings and their impact to our nature scape of the McKenzie Valley.**

**Together we cleaned, organized, repaired, and tackled projects that had been waiting for helping hands. By the end of just a few hours, the Community Center had been transformed.**

**More importantly, no one person was exhausted.**

**No one worked all day.**

**No one carried the burden alone.**

**Everyone simply showed up, gave what they could, shared a few laughs, enjoyed one another's company, and went home knowing they had made a real difference.**

**"The VMCC doesn't need everyone to do everything. We simply need many people to do a little."**



## Senior Center Lunches in August.

While trying to hire a person to Coordinate and Cook/clean Let's do it ourselves. Each week we need at least 3 people to help with the program. You do not need to sign up every week. Just once in a while. Greeter, Setup/Take down. Clean up and Food items. If you are available, please email or Call Shelly Pruitt 541-554-9332 [spruitt@vidacommunitycenter.com](mailto:spruitt@vidacommunitycenter.com).

**Aug. 4th Doors open at 11:30am** Potluck Lunch Served at 12:00pm Bring a dish of your choosing, plan on serving for 10 people. VMCC will provide beverages, place settings and a wonderful gathering of friends. Discussion on how to proceed with an all-Volunteer Senior Lunch Program. Sign up for your turn in August. Let's keep going!

**Aug. 11 Doors open at 11:30am** Lunch will be provided by a group of volunteers.

Trivia game to follow! Bring you thinking cap and we'll create teams to play for a while.

**Aug. 18 TBA**

**Aug 25th Doors open at 11:30 a.m.**

Visitors from Eugene. We will be welcoming a group of residents from Willamette Oaks.

### Baz Moto Concert

Baz Moto put on another great concert this year. They played to about 40 people. It was a perfectly nice evening with great music. Let's hope they come back next year!

