

the MOSIER VALLEY NEWS

“...WHERE THE ANGEL OPENS HER PALM AND YOU’RE IN MOSIER.”

✧ A New Year ✧

We consider January the month to start over. In reality, every day is an opportunity to start over. Each day presents itself as an invitation to begin, create, take that step. January simply shouts “Have You Done it Yet?”

JANUARY IN MOSIER

Many of you are reading this from warmer parts of the country where you go to escape the fog, chill and grey that marks the Gorge. Enjoy. For others, the fog is simply a light diffuser which illuminates the Mosier landscape with a different type of beauty. This is the season

that allows us to see what’s behind the forest and through the trees. Winter reveals that which the leaves conceal. We see where the nests lie, where the houses are tucked, how the branches are formed and what fowl are visiting.



A Walk

The photo above was taken by Suzi Conklin on a walk near Rowena Dell. We have lovely ponds in the area that serve as habitat for all kinds of wild life. On some January day take a walk and sit still for awhile by one of these ponds. Nature will surprise you with all kinds of beauty and interest.



Create Your Own Cookies

Here’s a template for cookies. Add additional ingredients to create your own. Bake 350°

- 3/4 Cup butter
- 1 Cup brown sugar
- 1 Cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 1/2 C flour

Cream butter and sugars. Add eggs. Add dry ingredients. Now add your own flavors, nuts, coconut, choc. etc





Recycler of the Year Award

Hazardous Waste Collection Program Wins Award

At its recent state convention, The Association of Oregon Recyclers presented a special Recycler of the Year Award to the Tri-County Hazardous Waste Management Program. The Community Partnerships Award acknowledges outstanding achievement in building coalitions to prevent pollution and reduce waste in the environment. "This award is a tribute to the hard work and involvement of all our Program partners", said Glenn Pierce, Chair of the Tri-County Program and



Environmental Health Director for Wasco Sherman Public Health, "The region is healthier because of their efforts".

The Tri-County Hazardous Waste Management Program began collecting household, agricultural and small business hazardous waste in July 2006. It has built two permanent collection facilities; one in The Dalles, the other in Hood River. It holds sixteen collection events annually, four at each of the facilities and eight more in the rural areas of the region.

The Program is a unique partnership because it combines six city and three county governments and contracts with Waste Connections, the firm that owns both Hood River Garbage and The Dalles Disposal and with Philip Services Corporation, a hazardous waste management firm, to operate the facility. The Counties of Wasco, Sherman and Hood River participate as well as the cities of Dufur, Cascade Locks, Hood River, The Dalles, Maupin and Mosier. Wasco County is the lead agency in the coalition.



Recycling Award Cont.

The Program is a model for other rural Oregon communities and has hosted tours of the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association and of representatives from Wallowa, Baker, Union, Polk, Lincoln and Douglas Counties.

The Association of Oregon Recyclers is one of the oldest, strongest and most respected state recycling coalitions in the country. Its members include local governments, garbage and recycling haulers, international businesses and non-profit organizations. "This is a very special award", says Pat Bozanich Program Coordinator, "because AOR doesn't usually honor hazardous waste programs".

Gorge Artists Ready for 2008

See Artists In Their Natural Habitat

Have you ever looked at an art piece and wondered who made it and how? If you have ever been curious about artists and the art-making process, the second annual Gorge Artists Open Studios Tour is the event for you.

The self guided tour features thirty five artists throughout the Columbia Gorge, from the communities of Stevenson, Hood River, White Salmon, Mosier, The Dalles and Goldendale. This provides a fantastic opportunity to tour the Gorge with friends and see art while you are doing it. Thirty five artists will be sharing their working spaces and methods so visitors can "see artists in their natural habitat". Tour guides [brochures] for the event are available (\$15.00 admits two for the weekend) through Frame Central and Art Media stores in Portland as well

as Klindt's Booksellers in The Dalles, and Anz Panz and Columbia Art Gallery in Hood River. Online purchases of the tour guide as well as travel specials for hotels and restaurants are available through the web site at: www.gorgeartistsopenstudios.com

Painters, blacksmiths, weavers, photographers, graphite artists, sculptors, potters, furniture makers, a computer artist and a guitar builder are among those demonstrating how they make their art. Many of the participants have shown and are collected nationally.

The project is the result of Gorge Artists Inc., a non-profit dedicated to building community "The goals of the Gorge Artists Open Studios is to help build markets for the work of Gorge artists, to demystify the art-making process for the public, to build relationships between art lovers and artists, and to build community among the artists themselves" says Pat Bozanich, one of the committee members.

This self-guided tour is one of many new arts-based initiatives in the Gorge, which will help brand the area as an arts and culture destination. The Gorge Artists Open Studios tour has benefited to date from the generous support not only of participating artists, but also of MCEDD, Oregon Investment Board, The Dalles Art Association, Sticks and Stones Company, National Endowment for the Arts, White Salmon Arts Council, Columbia Center for the Arts, Northern Wasco County P.U.D.

All Things Cherry



If you love gifts with a cherry motif, check out Apple Green the gift shop next to Dog River Coffee Company in Hood River. Apple Green has the largest and most impressive selection of cherry related gifts I've seen. Located at 413 Oak Street, this garden and household gift shop features the following list of items with a cherry theme: dish towels, table cloths & napkins, tea cozies, market bags, tableware, salad & fruit bowls, teapots, utensil holders, butter dish, pitcher, canister set, baking/serving dishes, note cards, handkerchiefs. They have a large selection of garden items and other gifts as well but it was the beautifully crafted cherry theme that really caught this shopper's eye.

WILSON FAMILY HISTORY

A reader has recently purchased the former Wilson house in east Mosier and inquired as to the history of the house and the Wilsons. I had the opportunity to sit with Marjorie Gove, a Wilson by birth, at the Mosier Christmas Fair and she was kind enough to fill me in on the history.

Grant Wilson and Marjorie Wilson are cousins, same grandfather, fathers were brothers. Harry was Grant's dad and George was Marjorie's. The story begins in Denmark at the turn of the 20th century. Two brothers, Oscar and Pete, dreaming of a more interesting/better life. For Pete, a life with a girl named Sofia whom he would leave behind in Denmark until he had some security, then he would bring her over to be his wife. But these things take time and meanwhile, Sofia and Oscar fall in love and get married at King's Palace in Copenhagen. They move to Iowa then Oscar, hearing about free land in the Oregon Territory above the banks of the Columbia River, brings Sofia along with three sons over where they homestead up the McVey Spring above today's Mosier while Pete takes to coal mining in Kentucky. (granddaughter Marjorie Gove thinks this was about 1906) A few years later, Oscar trades his land for a large piece that is now East Mosier, they move into a house on what is now Wilson Street so the boys can attend school (most likely 1910 according to Marjorie) and soon after Oscar falls critically ill. Pete enters the scene and when Oscar dies, marries his true love, Sophie. Pete lives in the house after Sophie passes away and lives to the age of 94. Sophie passes away in the Wilson house but Pete is moved to a nursing facility when he can no longer care for himself.

During his lifetime, Oscar had split the property and with a gentleman's handshake gave a portion of the East Mosier land to the city for a park. This handshake would be challenged years later as a Mayor of Mosier would claim the act not legal and would try to purchase it himself. He would not succeed. The Goves and Wilsons intervened because they thought the handshake legal and because they also thought the retirement center should be built there.

Pete sold the house on Wilson Street to George and Ruth Calberley who had it for a number of years.

Oscar and Sofia's three sons were Frank, Harry and George. Pete did not have children. George and Harry went into business together and built the Mosier Garage in 1926 running an auto shop where Fred's sailboard shop is now just west of the Mosier Creek Bridge on Highway 30. Due to health reasons the garage was sold in 1935 and each purchased an orchard. Harry became ill and died in 1947 leaving wife Fern and two young boys, Grant and Mark.

George and wife Vada married in 1928 and lived in a house across the street from the garage. One cold winter day while visiting Sofia and Pete the furnace malfunctioned and the house burned down. They then bought the J. P. Carroll farm, pulled out all the apples and planted cherries. In 1968 they retired to The Dalles and daughter Marjorie and son-in-law Dick Gove bought the ranch and still reside there.

When Oscar and Sofia came to America they changed their name from Christensen to Wilson. One reason was in Denmark it was the law when a young man turned 18 they must serve in the military.



The Wilson House Today

When Oscar and his 5 brothers came to America they changed their name in case the Danish military had an interest in their whereabouts. That was one "secret" they would never talk about.



Oscar, Sofia
Harry, George
and Frank
Wilson



The Wilson garage.

AND SPEAKING OF HISTORY, A READER JUST WROTE ASKING FOR HISTORY OF THE HOUSE AT 204 IDAHO STREET. ANYONE WITH INFORMATION, PLEASE SEND WHAT YOU KNOW TO: Suzi Conklin
s1conk@gorge.net

BOOK REVIEW

In case you missed purchasing it at the Mosier Christmas Fair you might want to pursue the book TRAVELOGUE From an Unruly Youth by local writer and editor of the Enterprise in White Salmon, D.C. Jesse Burkhardt. For anyone with powerful wander lust in their youth or anyone wanting to know what was going on in young men's minds when it came to relationships in the early 1970's, this is an opportunity for voyeurism at its best. Jesse takes us right into his heart and soul in a most candid and selfless manner. You might already know of Jesse's lust for trains from his previous books, but here's a chance to hop on the tracks with him and understand the roots of his passion. For this reader the book answered three questions: 1. What was it like to train hop across the country? 2. What were guys thinking back then? and 3. How could a guy be in love and still leave you? Jesse offers great insight in these matters and does it with appreciable honesty.

For a copy of TRAVELOGUE

check out local bookstores or write:
Rolling Dreams Press

PO 'box 1054/White Salmon, WA
98672.

www.rollingdreamspress.com

WRAPPING UP CHRISTMAS

We hope you recycled your Christmas wrap this year. If not, think about it next year. Christmas Wrap can also be cut up for fun crafts with the kids. Many images off of wrapping can be used to create cards, wallpaper for doll houses, drawer lining, anywhere paper goes, wrapping paper can make it festive.

A MOMENT ON EARTH

I received in the mail today my Godson's latest creation, a 200 page hard bound book complete with DVD of a project he titles "A Moment on Earth."

Jereme Axelrod coordinated 60 filmmakers around the world to capture on digital video something going on in their part of the planet at the exact date and time. For anyone who has taken a moment to think about all of the people and their lives at any given moment, people fighting in a war, people giving birth, dying, dancing, recreating, starving, dining on truffles and caviar, divorcing and marrying, digging ditches and trading stocks, this film is rich with its own examples and more. The book accompanying the DVD records the correspondence Jereme had with the other filmmakers via email before and after the actual filming. Each filmmaker is depicted in the book with a brief bio, photo and description of their moment in the film. Because the time chosen was Greenwich time, some filmmakers got to film night life while others were stuck with 4 a.m. when it was very difficult to find anyone up particularly if a curfew was in affect in their part of the world.

The correspondence between Jereme and the filmmakers alone makes for fascinating reading and one might think it stops there but no. You can go to www.momentonearth.com and click on any number of pixels in a mosaic Jereme set up to see that part of the world and film subject. To get to the mosaic you click on a left hand rectangular box in the middle of the home page.

Then there's the fact that this young man is just out of grad school and still in his 20's. (that's the Fairy Godmother in me speaking now). Check all of this on line. The book with DVD sells for the ridiculously low price of \$24.95 and would make a great addition to any library of videos and books. It would also make a great educational tool. You can order on-line at www.momentonearth.com or via Satellite Films, PO Box 5117, Santa Monica CA 90409-5117. Tell him Sooze Booze sent you.

DUCT TAPE FOR WARTS

We've been reading lately that duct tape is good for removing warts but not one article about this tells us how it works so we decided to do our own research. Our research department placed duct tape on warts to find out if it works. Hoping the process report we'll tter.



ANONYMOUS DUCT TAPE RESEARCHER

MOSIER LEGION AUXILIARY

The Mosier Legion Auxiliary is gathering pictures and memorabilia depicting the history of the American Legion & Auxiliary Post 55. If you have any items, pictures or memories that you would be willing to share, we would certainly appreciate your contribution. Over the years many in our community may recall the annual Memorial Day parade and marching up the street proudly (or in some cases reluctantly) carrying a flag or bouquet. Then arriving at the cemetery and placing them for the ceremony, singing a song or two, hearing the gun salute, or perhaps you are one of our buglers who played Taps to end the ceremony. Do you remember ice cream treats? Potluck dinners? Picnics? Please share your memories, pictures, old programs, etc. we would like to put together a historical archive and display. We will be happy to just borrow items that can be scanned into the computer and then returned to you or we will make arrangements to come and scan at your home if that would be better for you. Please take a few minutes to jot down some memories and email or mail them. Please contact Carol Root Seeber, (503) 913-6556, or Lois Root (541) 478-3598, or Peggy Berthold (541) 296-4000 if you have questions or contributions. You may also contact us at CJRSeeber@aol.com or 1111 Root Road, Mosier, OR 97040.

MOSIER GRANGE NO. 234

The Grange is a family oriented farm organization – with roots in rural communities all across America. Our local Grange has been busy during the year. The building is used by local groups, families and organizations.

The Grange sponsors the Community Calendar. The Mosier Fire Department uses the building for their annual Spring Smorgasbord/Fund Raiser. During the summer we sell local cherries as a fund raising project for the Grange.

In 2007, the Grange gave 6 scholarships to local seniors: James Breckerfield, Susanna Begay, Melissa Kaufman, Nicholas Maslen, Cameron Root, and Kayla Young. We also support the local 4-H youth with financial help with their projects.

This year we honored 6 Grange members for many years of service to the Grange: Verne Root – 65 years, Louise Leininger – 60 years, C. R. (Dick) Gove – 60 years, Peggy Berthold – 60 years, Marjorie Gove – 55 years, and Grant Wilson – 50 years.

We support our local service men and women by sending goodies and medical items. If you know any service person, please contact our local Master – Lucy Ward at 478-3511 with their name and address.

The Grange provides assistance for funeral dinners, fund raisers, school projects, and other community activities.

If you would like to become a member of the local Grange, please contact Master Lucy Ward.

(written by Marilyn Wilson)

TAI CHI FOR BALANCE IN MOSIER

Tai-Chi for Balance classes will begin at the Mosier Grange Hall on January 29, 2008. This is a modified form of Tai-Chi, developed to help older adults and others develop better balance. The class is open to all Columbia Gorge area residents age 60 and over or any who desire to improve balance. Open to all levels, if you are confined to a wheelchair or use a walker, this class can also help you. Please join us, have fun while improving your health.

Please call Barbara at 296-7414 to register. We need to know how many plan to attend the classes. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 11:00 am to Noon and will run for 12 weeks beginning the 29th of January. All classes will be held at the Mosier Grange Hall. Barbara will send you additional information after you register.

Dream a New Mosier Store

In 2000 we had a 20/20 plan, a vision of what Mosier could look like by the year 2020. In that study, Mosierites brainstormed a vision for their little burg. Now with transition underway, and the potential loss of the Fairy Dell Store we once again assess our priorities.

WHAT'S NEEDED IN MOSIER?

OK, let's say you could have anything for sale in Mosier you desired. What would you like to see in a little shop downtown? This questions comes with one qualifier, remember we are still very small and whoever runs this dream will not be

able to retain a ton of inventory AND we locals must make a pledge to support this place. Are you buying wine at the Mosier Market, for example, they really do have an impressive inventory, at least did last time we checked. But what is it you find yourself driving all the way to The Dalles or Hood River to get that could be in Mosier? What's the perfect little place that would delight tourists as well as locals? Perhaps we build on the Fairy Dell, start there with it's boutique gifts and add on items we feel are missing here? Send your ideas to Suzi at s1conk@gorge.net We'll print ideas in the February issue. And thanks.

MOSIER STUDENTS ADOPT A MARINE

Mosier Community School students spend their days learning many things, but a special project initiated this past October taught them something that was, at once, simple and profound.

"I learned that I liked doing something for someone else," Will Summerfield, 8, explained.

The students in Jennifer McDonald's blended first and second grade class "adopted" Jarren Seal, a Marine medic stationed in Fallujah, Iraq. Jarren is a 1997 graduate of Wahtonka High School and

went to Mosier School from first to fifth grades.

The students wrote letters to him asking questions ranging from “What do you do?” to “Do you like to swim?” and “Do you like motorcycles?” At the end of October, 28-year-old Jarren wrote back answering their questions and telling them a little about his days keeping guard and taking care of sick and injured marines. “You guys really have no idea how much it means to get mail from home,” he wrote. “I am sure someday all of you will know what I mean. Surely you all plan on college or maybe moving away at some point. Then you will truly appreciate a good note from home.”

Learning that Jarren was tired of eating the ready-to-eat meals (MREs) supplied by the military, they sent him a package of snacks, socks and items. Before Thanksgiving break they even got to try a MRE meal consisting of chow mein and “something called steak.”

Before Christmas the students sent him another package of letters and goodies. Rita Meittinen, 7, and Saranda Bickle, 8, wished him a Merry Christmas and wondered what he would do in Iraq at Christmastime.

“I guess he’ll do what he usually does,” Caelen Curtiss, 7, mused. “But why can’t he get a Christmas break like we do? Why does he have to go there in the middle of Christmas?”

Jarren is the oldest son of Tami Berthold, Mosier Community School’s manager, secretary and gatekeeper of the office. “I’m very proud of him and what he does,” she said of her son who has been in Iraq for three months now. And it was obvious that she was also extremely proud of the Mosier students who have taken it as their task to brighten her son’s difficult days, so far away from home.

“I try not to think about him (being in Iraq) too often,” she added, her eyes welling with tears. “I want the article to be about the students,”

