

2 0 0 9 F E B R U A R Y

# the MOSIER VALLEY NEWS

“BEWARE HOW YOU TAKE AWAY HOPE FROM ANOTHER HUMAN BEING



*February  
Valentines Day  
Groundhog Day  
Presidents Day  
Black History month  
Not a leap year*



## ✧ Wind Farm a No Go ✧

### WIND FARM PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN

Proposers of a large windfarm up seven mile hill area have withdrawn their proposal. A lot of effort went into protesting the construction of a large wind farm outside Mosier just a short distance over the Gorge Scenic boundary. We don't have details yet as to why the proposal was withdrawn but one thing is clear, the issue for now is dead. This was the third attempt at building a wind farm up there so for how long we can rest is to be seen. For now,

there will be no wind turbines going in up there.

Quote by Samuel Johnson

A  
cow is a very  
good animal in a field  
but we turn her out  
of a garden

### Mini Recipe

Make your own chocolates. You can purchase chocolate in bulk either milk chocolate or semi-sweet (not chocolate chips which

won't melt properly) and melt it slowly in a double boiler then add coconut, nuts, raisins, mini marshmallows, dried fruit, white chocolate chips, crushed toffee

bars, etc. Drop it by spoons full onto wax paper and enjoy.



# Mosier Teacher Making an Impression

## **Peter Lake – Teacher, Traveler and Great White Shark Maker**

How many classrooms do you know that have a full sized paper mache Great White Shark hanging from the ceiling? Well Peter Lake's class of first and second graders had just that for most of their 2007 school year. If you ask my son, currently a Kindergartener at Mosier Community School, what he is looking forward to next year, he will answer, "Making a Great White Shark in Mr. Lake's class!" Peter Lake has set the standard high for providing a classroom full of creativity, interest in learning, and allowing the children to have a say in what direction their education takes them. His absence last year was felt by all the students, parents and teachers at Mosier. Mr. Lake spent the 2007/2008 school year traveling through Bali, New Zealand, Australia, Mexico, Peru and Costa Rica. I sat down with Mr. Lake to learn more about his travels and how his experience has influenced his teaching.

While traveling in New Zealand, Peter visited a K-12, all boy boarding school. The students were from Hong Kong, Singapore, Western Australia and the mid-Australian outback. When asked how the boarding school differed from Mosier Community School Peter had several interesting observations. He noted that the education was more structured and allowed less time for creative and free thought. Athletics are very important and each boy is required to participate in at least one team sport while attending the school. Peter also commented that the students were more mature, most likely a product of being away from home at a young age. In Mexico, Peter witnessed the high regard that both students and parents hold for their educators. The educators have a high level of influence over parents and students and what is asked to be done is done.

While in Oaxaca, Peter attended a Cultural Institute to study reading, writing and Mexican history. As the Spanish teacher at Mosier Community School, Peter has been able to incorporate much of what he learned and experienced into his classroom. For instance, Mr. Lake taught a unit on Day of the Dead and was able to bring first-hand knowledge of how the traditions are celebrated to his 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade "Tiger Track" students.

As a teacher Mr. Lake is well loved by his students. When asked what his secret to transitioning his students into a new year he says he promotes a sense of community. Every morning he gathers the students for the morning greeting. The students shake hands and say good morning. If a student is absent, their absence is noticed immediately, giving each student a sense of importance and belonging within the classroom. From a student's perspective, Mr. Lake brings humor and creativity into the classroom. He says his biggest secret to understanding children is to give them time. "If you give kids enough time they will come up with the answer, but it takes sitting and waiting after asking the question" says Lake.

When asked if he was happy to be back, Peter didn't hesitate to say yes. "People in the gorge are friendly and happy and active. It is a wonderful place to be and live" says Mr. Lake. Everyone at Mosier Community School is happy to have Peter Lake back in his classroom. And as for the Great White Shark... we will all have to wait and see what is dreamed up and created by Mr. Lake's students this year. For more information about Mosier Community School please visit our website at [www.mosierschool.com](http://www.mosierschool.com).

## Oak Street Hotel Offering concerts

February 27th and 28th there is a ukulele concert performed by 20 students from Langley British Columbia with workshops on the 28th.

Kevin Burke and Cal Scott perform March 27th 7PM Kevin is considered one of the finest fiddlers around. Cal Scott is a composer, multi instrumentalist, producer, musician, and part of the Trail Band many of us hear at Christmas time in Hood river. He has written for numerous films and commercial projects.

May 1,2,3 is the Gorge Fiddle Contest

The Oak Street Hotel is offering a special rate of \$89 throughout the series.

[Reservations@OakStreetHotel.com](mailto:Reservations@OakStreetHotel.com)

610 Oak Street

(541)386-3845

## Sunday, February 1 Films or Football?

Sunday you'll have to choose, go to The Telluride film festival at Andrew's Pizza and support the Mosier Community school or watch the Super Bowl. It is either an unfortunate dilemma or an opportunity to avoid the game.. A variety of films focusing on outdoor sports, unique cultures, and environmental issues will be presented. Showings will be at 3PM (family matinee), 5:30PM and 8PM (21 and older only at the 8pm show). Tickets will be available in advance at Waucoma Books, Hood River. Prices are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children under 12, or at the door for \$15 adults, \$10 children under 12.

There might be a chance to take in both the game and the film festival. But if you choose to just watch the Super Bowl, here's an idea. While you are sitting around for a couple of hours with nothing to do but watch the game and eat, why not take out your check book and write a check to The Mosier Community School in the amount you would have spent had you chosen to go to the film festival instead. It is a win, win situation which might end up better for you than if you are cheering for the losing team.

# *Mosier Elects new Mayor*

Mosier's new Mayor and Council are as follows:

**Mayor Andrea Rogers**

**Council President Allan Rodrick**

**Councilors Peny Wallace, Kathy Fitzpatrick, (new Councilors)  
David Princehouse, Tim Mortenson, and Rae Jackson**

## **Mosier Proclaims January 27th Volunteer Firefighter's Day**

The city wanted to thank our volunteer fire department so they proclaimed January 27th the day to recognize our volunteer fire department.

We all need to understand the work of these people because they are the ones who will do the very best of their abilities to save our homes and our lives in case of an emergency. They spend their evenings on drills and practices of all kinds. They maintain their equipment and we are thrilled to learn that Mosier has obtained two trucks from other departments statewide which will make response to our homes a lot quicker, safer and more effective.

So folks, here's what you can do to further protect your home and your life. 1. Get to know the fire crew. Let them know how to get to your house. It was pointed out to me by Ron Carroll one of the volunteers, that sometimes they have difficulty finding a house because the address may be listed on a road whereas the house actually sits on a spur off of that road. Often the house number is too low or placed too parallel to the road to be easily seen. Understand that these guys are driving to your house in a hurry and need all the help they can to find your house number. The best thing to do is prominently display the house number with reflective numbers easily visible while driving. Try it yourself and see if you could find your own house as a stranger.

2. Recognize our fire fighters. Thank them, find out what their requirements are for finding your house. Bake them some cookies. Do something to show them you are grateful they are spending their spare time learning how to save your life and property. The city, by the way, couldn't afford to take them to lunch, I suggest we figure out a way to do a lot more for them than a simple lunch, like volunteer.

# Solar is Shining a Little More Brightly

by *mark Cherniack*

There is one small consolation in the deepening economic gloom: the price of solar electricity (photovoltaics) is actually coming down, at least temporarily, for consumers. Unfortunately, the decline in price is entirely related to the slowing economy. Although more money in the history of the world has been going into increased production of solar electricity products in the last three years, there has been little change in the price that you and I would pay for solar power for our homes or businesses. Part of the price freeze over the last couple years was due to the global increase in the price of steel, aluminum and copper, all of which are fundamental to producing solar power systems. In addition, there has been and still is, an unprecedented demand for solar power worldwide. These facts have kept the prices relatively firm and even rising a little, at least until the global economic slowdown has finally hit.

Financial incentives available to home and business owners from federal and state sources have never been better, especially for businesses in Oregon through state tax credits—assuming the business can use a tax credit, although there is a mechanism in state law to sell a tax credit to some one else who can use it. The big news on the federal front is that on January 1, 2009, the federal tax credit for solar energy was increased from 30% of the cost (after taking other financial incentives into consideration) with a cap of \$2000, to 30% and no cap.

However, state and local solar incentives depends on what state you live in and in Oregon specifically, it depends on who you buy electricity from for your home or business. All utilities in Oregon are required by law to buy back small-scale power production from solar, wind and hydro. This is known as 'net metering.' However, each utility can set the conditions for what they will pay you and what they can charge you to inspect the installation, hook it up, read a separate meter, billing, and whatever. Local customers of Pacific Power can get cash incentives worth

thousands of dollars in addition to state and federal tax credits, toward the cost of a solar electric system through the Energy Trust of Oregon ([www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org)). Local customers of the Wasco Electric Coop, Hood River Electric Coop and Northern Wasco County PUD, get no cash incentives because these companies choose not to participate in a statewide program that would require the companies to add a 3% public benefits charge to all electricity sales. This issue is complex, but boils down to short term thinking versus long term thinking, with short term thinking still firmly in control at our local utilities. The 3% funds are pooled statewide and sent back out to customers of eligible utilities (Pacific Power, Portland General Electric, NW Natural—for gas savings only) for home and business energy efficiency and renewable energy investments. The Energy Trust was the main source of funding the solar electric system at the Mosier Community School along with financial support from the Columbia River Bank that got involved through an energy tax credit pass through program noted above and run by the Oregon Department of Energy. The Energy Trust was also the source of funding for the wind turbine at Hood River High School. Pacific Power ratepayers including those in Mosier and Hood River and where ever they live in the state, helped put the Mosier School solar system in because it helps the entire Pacific Power system and its customers. And ultimately our entire society.

However, the underlying reality of solar power has not changed: the upfront cost is too high for too many. The only smart approach to solving this problem is requiring all electric utilities purchase and install solar systems (for electricity and hot water), and have all us pay a few dollars a month on the utility bill to pay off the system. The city of Berkeley, CA is doing this by adding a fee on the annual property tax bill for those wanting solar systems. Where there is a will, there is a way. All we need are local and national leaders

## “Diptych and Triptych” show features Mosier Artist

Mosier artist John Maher will be part of a four person show at Columbia Center for the Arts in Hood River. The show will feature art that is created in two and three parts.

John has been creating his art for over thirty years, working in photography and painting. His work has been featured on OPB’s Oregon Art Beat television show and he has shown extensively

Through out the West. His last large show was at the Coos Art Museum, on the Oregon Coast.

Come out for opening night - First Friday in Hood River, February 6, 2009.

To see more of John’s work see;

[www.maherart.com](http://www.maherart.com)

[www.columbiaarts.org](http://www.columbiaarts.org)



## Wilderness Bill Passes Senate and House

Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> the US Senate voted 66-12 in favor of the bill that would permanently protect more than 200,000 acres of Oregon lands near Mt. Hood and other Oregon locations. The House followed suit with a yes vote as well.

The bill extends formal wilderness status and protection to federal land. Democrat Senator Ron Wyden worked over 5 years to get the bill passed. Former Senator Gordon Smith worked equally hard on it. This was the first vote for Senator Jeff Merkley as newly elected official replacing Smith. He voted in favor of the bill.

Around Mt Hood specifically about 125,000 acres would be protected and almost 80 miles on nine free-flowing stretches of rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Designate 9.3 miles of river at the headwaters of the North Fork of the Elk River as Wild and Scenic and add 13,700 acres of wilderness adjacent to the existing Grassy Knob Wilderness.

30,000 acres in an area 15 miles east of Bend would be designated as wilderness.

A 23,000-acre wilderness area, to be known as the Soda Mountain Wilderness in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument’s southern back country would be included.

Approximately 8,600 acres of BLM land overlooking the John Day Wild and Scenic River would be designated as Spring Basin Wilderness.

# Mosier Watershd C'cl Receives Grant

by Kate Merrick

The Mosier Watershed Council met on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Grange Hall. Council Coordinator Kate Merrick announced that the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) approved the council's grant application for the "Mosier Aquifer Recovery Feasibility Study!" OWRD will contribute \$150,919 to the project.

The primary project goal is to evaluate the feasibility of using Aquifer Recharge or Aquifer Storage and Recovery, two different methods of storing water underground, to increase water availability for agricultural, domestic, and in-stream use. Another goal is to evaluate the feasibility of using conservation as alternative method of meeting Mosier's water needs.

Progress on the USGS Mosier groundwater model seems to indicate that commingling wells may be the most significant cause of water level declines n Mosier-area aquifers. As a reminder, commingling wells are wells in which water from one aquifer is lost into a different aquifer. In light of the emerging significance of commingling wells, the grant project focus may shift more toward studying the water savings that could be achieved by repairing commingling wells, and less toward studying the feasibility of aquifer recharge/storage.

The Mosier Watershed council will meet soon to review and sign the OWRD grant agreement. At that time they will set a schedule for regular meetings in 2009.

## MCS Yoga Classes starting February 10, 2009

Local Mosier resident, Jody Seaborn, now offering Yoga Classes at the Mosier Community School, Tuesdays & Thursdays 4-5:20 pm

Jody teaches an eclectic blend of yoga emphasizing breath with movement and creates a stimulating and supportive environment for All.

Classes start on February 10<sup>th</sup> and are FREE the first week, Feb. 10 & 12

Please bring a yoga mat and blanket [jodysea@gmail.com](mailto:jodysea@gmail.com) (541) 806-4733

# *Out and About in Mosier*

**American Legion:** 1st Thursday; American Legion Hall 7 pm.

**Mosier City Council:** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 pm Mosier Creek Terrace Community Room. For information, Call City Treasurer/Recorder 541-478-3505

**Mosier First Christian Church:** Sunday School 10 am; Service 11 am; For information, call Leanna Harrison 541-478-3338

**Calvary Chapel of the Columbia Gorge:** Sunday School 10 am, Sunday Services 11 am, Mosier Community School Auditorium; Tuesday Night Services at First Christian Church 7 pm; Pastor Bob Ruiz 541-478-3458

**Mosier Volunteer Fire Department:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Mondays 7 pm Mosier Fire Station; Chief Jim Appleton 503-221-1884

**Mosier Grange:** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7 pm Mosier Grange Hall, Grange Master Luci Ward, 541-478-3511

**Mosier Home Extension:** 2nd Thursday, potluck lunch; Peggy Berthold, 541-296-4000

**Mosier Quilt Club:** 1st and 3rd Mondays, 6:30 pm Helen Huskey, 541-478-3344 or Joan Hamilton, 541-478-3391

And Speaking of the Mosier quilt club: The quilt they donated for the Mosier Senior Lunch program called "Pioneer Potlatch" was won by Annie Maslen of Mosier's Annie's Apricots. The raffle raised \$1,000 for the lunch program.

Pioneer Potlatch Association provides inexpensive meals for Seniors at the Mosier Creek Terrace. Everyone is welcome to come have lunch. The cost is very, very inexpensive and you simply bring your own plate and flatware. With donations, PPA can continue to pay their cook. Here's a sample of the February menu. Menu is subject to change without notification depending on availability of supplies and produce.

Feb 2nd: Roast Beef with Potatoes and gravy, green salad, rolls and dessert. Beverages are included

February 4th: Macaroni & Cheese, Pork sausage, pickled Bets, cottage cheese and Pineapple. Dessert

February 9th: Sweet & Sour Meatballs, egg noodles, apple raisin salad, Corn, rolls, dessert

February 11th: turkey breast & Gravy. Stuffing, Salad, vegetables and dessert

February 16th: Sausage & Sauerkraut, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Fruit salad, rolls, dessert

February 18th: Swiss Steak, Potatoes & Gravy, Frog eye Salad, Vegetables, Rolls, Dessert

February 23rd: Salmon Patties, Vegetables, Potatoes, Cole Slaw w/fruit, rolls, dessert

February 25th: Baked Chicken Alfredo, Red potatoes & Corn meal, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Dessert

# *House for Rent in Mosier*

3 br 2.5 ba in Friendly Downtown Mosier

Built in 2002, this airy 2 story offers fantastic views of Coyote Syncline, Mosier Waterfall Park and six miles down the Columbia River from the kitchen, dining and living areas, upper and lower decks and the master bed room. Located on one acre at the end of a very private 2 home paved cul de sac, you can walk to Main Street for a coffee or a meal, or over to Pocket Falls for a swim - in 5 minutes or less. The 2 car attached garage, pleasant mix of hardwood and carpet, washer/dryer, refrigerator and oven/stove round out this wonderful home.

\$1200 per month with one year lease term. Sorry no smokers, and most probably no pets. First, last and \$1000 security required.

dave and marianne  
209-603-6290

3 br 2.5 ba in Friendly Downtown Mosier

Built in 2002, this airy 2 story offers fantastic views of Coyote Syncline, Mosier Waterfall Park and six miles down the Columbia River from the kitchen, dining and living areas, upper and lower decks and the master bed room. Located on one acre at the end of a very private 2 home paved cul de sac, you can walk to Main Street for a coffee or a meal, or over to Pocket Falls for a swim - in 5 minutes or less. The 2 car attached garage, pleasant mix of hardwood and carpet, washer/dryer, refrigerator and oven/stove round out this wonderful home.

Available October 1, possibly sooner. \$1200 per month with one year lease term. Sorry no smokers, and most probably no pets. First, last and \$1000 security required.

## *From the Mosier Post Office*

In celebration of the Oregon Statehood A unique pictorial postmark is provided for both sending and collecting purposed beginning January 15, 2009. It will be available for 65 days i.e. until March 19th.

Simply bring your letters in with 42¢ stamps, postcards with 27¢ stamps, International 94¢ stamps or Canadian/Mexican letters with 72¢ stamps to the Mosier Post Office to receive the special cancellation. You can also drop off a cover letter stating you want the Pictorial Postmark cancellation. If you have questions call the post office at 478-3446

Found outside the post office:

A memory stick that transfers information from one computer to another. If you have lost one see Lark and Identify your stick.



# City Council Agenda for Wednesday, February 4th. 7PM

## 1. Street and Stormwater system SDC's

2. Regional Home Repair program Resolution 2009-03
3. Surplus Property list approval
4. Internal policies addressing audit report deficiencies
5. Report about changing internet service
6. MEMO from Fire Chief Appleton

## V. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes; January 21, 2009
2. Review/Approve Bills; January 17-February 2
3. Resolution 2009-03 Regional Home Repair program support

## VI. Committee Reports

1. Sign committee-Allan Rodrick
2. Cemetery committee-Kathy Fitzpatrick
3. Parks Committee-Kathy Fitzpatrick and Rae Jackson

## VII. Correspondence

## VIII. Adjournment

Upcoming Events: NOTE: **Change of date** for Municipal Code Book hearings; February 18, 2009  
Council Goal Setting Session date Saturday March 14, 2009.

# Shopping

Crab, whole or picked?

I have long been curious about purchasing Dungeness Crab. Should I buy it whole or picked.

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> I bought a whole crab in the shell it weighed 1.34 lbs. with my club card it was \$5.99/ lb. and at this writing, January 24<sup>th</sup> it is still that price.

My net cost was \$8.03 for 1 crab. I sat down and picked all of the meat out of the legs and body. My yield was 6.75 oz. That's \$.84/oz. in actual meat or \$13.44/lb for my yield. If I'd purchased picked crab at the store, the cost would have been \$21/ lb. So it did come out that purchasing the crab whole and picking it myself was less expensive. On January 29, Rosauer's featured picked crab for \$6.99 for half a pound. Or about \$17.00/lb. Still a better deal buying it whole, they were selling whole crabs at \$4.99/lb at that time.

## ATTENTION ATV DRIVERS

New ATV Safety laws are in effect now.

If you ride on public lands in quads or off-road motorcycles in Oregon, are under 16 years of age, or an adult who supervises a youth you are required to complete an on-line course on safety. The course is free

All riders regardless of age will be required to complete the training by January 1, 2014.

The course is available now at [www.riceATVoregon.org](http://www.riceATVoregon.org) If you don't have on-line access see your local public library or call 1-877-772-3359

The Front page quote was by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Mosier Valley News is \$88 is the hole, if you can contribute to our providing hard copies to the Mosier Market please send a check written to Susan Conklin, PO Box 228, Mosier 97040 and thanks for reading.

