



VOL. XXXVII, NO. 7

P.O. BOX 73, WILLIAMS, OREGON 97544

April 1, 2008

Online at: www.williamsnews.org

E-mail: williamsnews@gmail.com

A free, bi-monthly newsletter dedicated to informing, educating and enlightening the community of Williams.

WILLIAMS SCHOOL GETS A YEAR REPERIVE

by Pat Rickert

Williams School will survive for at least another year. But during that year the Three Rivers School Board will be checking to see if the community volunteers follow through on their promise to help with repairs and maintenance work on the school. They will also be checking on enrollment figures. The school needs to recruit home-schoolers to help boost its attendance rate. State funding is tied to enrollment, and the enrollment in Williams School has been steadily declining, as it has in other schools in the Three Rivers School District.

A good sized crowd (over 30 just from Williams) attended the school board meeting. Everyone sat patiently through 1-1/2 hours of discussion on whether to upgrade three schools in the district on energy-saving improvements. I must admit it was boring and complex, but very necessary discussion and presentation. The board voted to do the improvements.

The board then turned its attention to the recommendations from the Rightsizing Committee regarding the possible closure of some of the smaller schools. I won't go into all of the possibilities, as there were no easy answers and there weren't a lot of places in the budget to cut from. One recommendation was to cut student transfers to other school districts. But even that issue became complicated, if one were to take the best interest of the student into consideration. Transportation (bussing of the students) was another area looked at, as it is a big portion of the school district's budget. And with the rising cost of gas, this portion of the budget will probably rise significantly in the

future. But there seemed no easy way to streamline transportation routes.

A five year local operating levy or a construction excise tax were mentioned as ways to procure more revenue. Board members remarked that any kind of tax or levy would be a tough sell in Josephine County. But a committee is going to meet to see if anyone would like to volunteer to help get support from the public on a levy.

Near the end of the meeting Jann Taylor, an employee of the Three Rivers School District, told of her recent visits to charter schools around the state and she said she was looking into the feasibility of some sort of charter school for Williams and other small rural schools. She hopes to hold a workshop soon on the subject. For me, besides the fact that Williams would be in operation for at least one more year, this was a bright spot in an otherwise dismal sounding scenario on what is happening to our schools.

Also, I came away from the evening with a greater appreciation for what members of school boards do. They are volunteers who must study complex issues, listen to hours of presentations, and then make tough decisions. And through all of this they must try to pacify a largely uninterested public who only gets upset when it is their own ox that is being gored. I thank them all for their time and effort. I also thank the Rightsizing Committee for all the hours of hard work they put into this endeavor. (Linda DuBose, from Williams, was a member of this committee.)

"Every child in America is our child." Barack Obama

JANGLES' JUNKYARD

Recycled News and Information

submitted by Jim Krois

Almanac: April 1 <> 15, 2008

New Moon: 5th at 20:55 PDT

First Quarter: 12th at 11:32 PDT

April Blues Birthdays:

1 Lucille "Bessie Jackson" Bogan, 1897

3 Walter "Fats" Pichon, 1906

4 McKinley "Muddy Waters" Morganfield, 1915

5 Billy Bland, 1932

6 Haskel "Cool Papa" Sadler, 1935

11 Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson, 1939

15 Bessie Smith, 1898

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." – Mae West

DISCOVERY OF SPACE SOOT CASTS DOUBT ON DARK ENERGY THEORY

In space, no one can hear you scream — which is no bad thing, because scientists have discovered that it is a lot filthier than they thought.

Researchers revealed yesterday that limitless stretches of space are strewn with interstellar soot, making it harder to see very distant objects such as exploding stars or supernovae.

The finding, reported in the US journal Science, is more than a matter of cosmic cleanliness. Proof of the existence of space soot raises serious questions about the mysterious "dark energy" that is thought to drive the expansion of the universe.

In the late 1990s, astronomers noticed that light from very distant supernovae was dimmer than it should be, suggesting that some of these dying stars were far further away than theories predicted. The puzzle led to the hypothesis that the expansion of the universe was accelerating, and was being pushed along by an unknown form of energy, which they called dark energy.

The latest study suggests that space soot might be to blame, at least in part, for making distant stars appear more faint than expected.

"We're not saying this explains dark energy, but we're saying this stuff is out there and like dust in front of a lens, it might make these objects appear dimmer than they are," said Andrew Steele at the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington DC.

Steele and his colleague Marc Fries made their discovery while examining three meteorites that formed shortly after the birth of the solar system 4.5bn years ago.

WILLIAMS SCHOOL 85TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

by Pat Rickert

Williams School is calling upon the community for help and support in the celebration of its 85th birthday. Musicians, singers, performers: all will help make this a festive event. We would like businesses and organizations to think about having a booth at the community party.

Sponsors for a proposed Jog-A-Thon are also needed.

The Anniversary/Birthday celebration will take place on

**Saturday, May 3rd
from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

Volunteers to help in planning and to help on the day of the event are essential.

Anyone willing to help or to volunteer please call Jo Ann Hoffmocker at Williams School—846-7224.

Please consider giving your support to your local elementary school.

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE COMMUNITY INVITE

Where? Provolt Community Hall

When? Saturday, April 5 at 8:00 PM

Donations will benefit Kathy, Rene & Mark to help replace what was lost in their house fire.

If you missed the first showing at the Williams Grange this is your chance to *enjoy* and *help out!*

WILLIAMS NEWS VOLUNTEERS

Editors: Sara Katz, Susan Bondesen,
Kathy Escott, Beth Baugh

Layout - Liz Butler

Treasurer - Linda DuBose

Printing & Distribution - Brian Barton

Website Manager - Micah Owens

Jangles Junkyard - Jim Krois

Weather - Ray Prag

On That Note - Kim Mericle

The Williams News is a community newsletter published twice each month. We look to members of the community to contribute articles on community issues, events, & activities.

Send Submissions to:

P.O. BOX 73, Williams, OR 97544,
or email: williamsnews@gmail.com

Deadlines are the 7th and 21st of each month

WILLIAMS FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING

by Pat Rickert

Many community members thought it was time to revive the Williams Friends of the Library. Since the closure of the Josephine County Library, there hasn't been much activity with the library's friends from Williams.

A meeting was held on Saturday, March 22nd, on the lawn behind the closed Williams Library. Six community members showed up. New officers were elected: Prem Miles was voted in as president, Kristin Ginther as secretary and Heidi Hansen will keep her position as treasurer.

Bonnie Johnson gave an update on what is happening in the Josephine Community Libraries Inc. Group. This is the new non-profit group that will try to get the Josephine County library open again.

The Williams Friends hope to have several small book sales, starting with a table at the Williams School 85th birthday party on Saturday, May 3rd.

We are still in the process of trying to find a place for folks to deposit donated books for our book sales. Anyone with any ideas can call Prem Miles at 846-6718 or Pat Rickert at 846-6041.

WILLIAMS FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT GROUP ANNUAL FIRE SALE

by Diane Mulvey

We are now accepting donations for our Awesome Annual Yard Sale and eagerly await your call to have us pick up your gently used household items. Please call Diane at 846-6138 or Mary at 846-7713 to arrange a convenient pick up time. We can not accept donations at the Fire Station but we have storage space available and firefighters to help us pick up donations.

The Fire and Rescue people of the Williams Fire Department may be the first people you see in an emergency; help the Support Group keep them well-equipped by donating to this yard sale. We have wonderful furniture and even a piano this year. You know that you will attend the yard sale; help us make this the biggest and best ever!

FOR SALE NOW:

Upright piano, \$275.00, Treadle Sewing Machine, \$150, 4 couches: call Mary or Diane for details.

OREGON'S PRIMARY WILL COUNT THIS TIME!!

submitted by Rita Grauer

April 29th is the last day to register to vote in the May 20th primary. Registration forms can be picked-up at the post office and at the Oregon Secretary of State website at www.sos.state.or.us/

Oregon Registration Statistics - As of Jan. 2008:

Registered Republicans: 687,898

Registered Democrats: 764,255

All other registrations: 510,510 (including 436,070 non-affiliated)

Along with those running for national and state positions, **there will be candidates running for the following county positions:**

Commissioner, Positions 2 & 3

Assessor

Clerk & Recorder

Treasurer

Surveyor

District Attorney

There now is an independent website/forum to access county news and information, and to participate in "constructive" dialogue to find solutions to help Josephine County: www.JoCoInfo.com

PS- If you are interested in an even greater voice, contact Super Delegates at www.pbs.org/newshour/vote2008/primaries/superdelegates/

WILLIAMS GRANGE NEWS

by Kathy Escott, Secretary

PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8:30 to 11:00 & **BLUEGRASS JAM** 11:00 to 1:00, **SUNDAY, APRIL 13**. Wow! What a crowd we had at the March Pancake Breakfast. Even with the time change, we had a fabulous turnout. Let's repeat that in April! Come for the good food - stay for the great music.

RENT THE WILLIAMS GRANGE HALL: Call Dave Barker, 846-7365. Look for the events calendar posted in the Williams Grange for a variety of ongoing classes, fund raisers and social events.

BUSINESS MEETING: 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 9.





AND ON THAT NOTE...

by Kim Mericle



UPCOMING APRIL SHOWS:

Thursday 3rd Montana Soul
6-9 pm Magnolia Grill

Thursday 10th State of Jefferson
6-9 pm Magnolia Grill

**Friday 11th SCA Benefit w/ David Kai,
Heather Noel, and Mateo**
Williams Grange

**Saturday 12th Water Tower
String Band: Contra/ Square
Dance**
7:30 pm Williams Grange

Sunday 13th Bluegrass Jam
11 am - 1 pm Williams Grange

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**Thursday, April 24rd Rebecca
Riots**
House Concert, Williams
For Info, Call 846-1322
www.rebeccariots.com

Saturday, April 26th Jen Ambrose
7 pm Knaughty Pine (Murphy)

**Sunday, April 27th Leftover Dreams Jazz
Duo (Patrice Haan & Tony
Marcus)**
7 pm House Concert, Williams
Location TBA
For Info: 846-0152 www.leftoverdreams.com

In The Spotlight

WATER TOWER STRING BAND

The Water Tower String Band lineup is: Cory Goldman on the banjo, he claws at his five-string like Freddy Krueger at your face. Peter Daggatt who holds the band together with his driving guitar chops and devilish good looks. Ben Wheelhoss who locks it down on the bass fiddle. Josh Rabie is back with us now, playing the fiddle like a drunk grizzly bear, doubled by Kenny Feinstein who picks the mandolin as effortlessly as air. The Water Tower String Band, reeling from

Eugene, OR, met at the local Water Tower, a high-school hangout of ill repute. These young-uns brought together by their love of string band music play classic old-time and bluegrass tunes with a relentless youthful exuberance. Whether busking on a street corner, playing a show, or just pickin' on the porch, their infectious love of the music spreads far and wide. Inspired by the current wave of Northwest old time bands like the Tallboys and Foghorn Stringband, and drawing from sources from the Reverend Tommy Jarrell to Bill Monroe, they create piledrivin', scuttlebuttin', string breakin', hair-tearing, music that is sure to get the crowd dancing, or at least twitching uncomfortably with their fingers in their ears.



They will be playing for a local Contra/ Square Dance at the Williams Grange on Saturday, April 12th. 7:30 pm \$7-10 Sliding Scale Drew Tronvig will be

calling the dance. For more info: 846-6345 or go to www.myspace.com/watertowerstringband

If you know of any musical happening in the valley or would like to be the featured artist in this column, please email me, kimm@mcmatters.net or call 846-6345 by the 5th or 17th of the month for publication.

PASSAGES

Jim Pendleton passed away on March 15th. He was well known to everybody who popped in to Pendleton's Hardware. He loved to fish, hunt and ride ATV. He was to have been married in May of this year.

CELL PHONE TOWER IN WILLIAMS

A synopsis of the Town Council Mtg.

by Pat Rickert

The March 24th meeting of the Williams CAC (Town Council) dealt with the controversial subject of a cell phone tower in the heart of Williams. Edge Wireless has contracted with the Williams Fire Dept. to put a tower on its property. The fire board had given consent to have the tower erected on this site. Edge Wireless will pay the fire dept. "rent" for this use. The proposal now goes to the county planning commission and they will make the final decision on the issue of the permit.

Arguments were presented for both sides of the issue at the town council meeting. Representatives from Edge Wireless passed out a prospectus on the project, which included a picture of what the cell tower will look like, and explained that it was in compliance with FCC RF Exposure limits. Those in opposition to the construction of the tower gave arguments against the tower on the basis of alleged health risks, especially to children, who will be attending school right next door to the tower. (At this time Williams School is hoping to increase its attendance, in order to stay open. Some fear that the construction of the cell tower will have parents pulling their children from the school.)

Many in the audience were upset that they had been given no notice of this proposal and decision, so that they could have given input before it was a "done deal," i.e. a signed contract between the WRFD and Edge Wireless. It was then remarked that the fire department meetings are open to the public.

The debate went back and forth, and at the end of the evening a vote was taken, thirty-three voted against the tower being erected, and three voted for it. There were some who abstained, either because they did not have enough information on the subject or they didn't want to be involved in the controversy. Four town council members were present at this meeting and that vote was split down the middle, two for and two against.

** The News learned that after a decision is made by the planning commission, a notice will be sent to households, businesses and public buildings within 750 ft. of where the tower is to be built. Those receiving the notice will have 12 days to appeal the decision to the county commissioners. Others wishing to be sent that notice may at this time write a letter to the County Planning office requesting to be included on the notification of the decision. In that letter, you may also voice your opinion on the subject, whether for or against. The planning department has already received a few letters on the controversial project.*

Josephine County Planning Office: 510 Northwest 4th Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526-2078 Phone: 474-5421, Ext. 5418 Attention: James Black

Edge Wireless: 150 NE Agness Ave., Grants Pass, OR 97526 Phone: 471-1915; www.edgewireless.com

EDGE TOWER UPDATE

submitted by the Williams Rural Fire Protection District Board

From: Williams Rural Fire Protection District Board
To: Residents of Williams
RE: Edge ATT Cell Phone Tower

Background

Edge Wireless initially contacted the Williams Rural Fire Protection District (WRFPD) in January 2007 with the proposal to place a cell phone tower on WRFPD property at 211 East Fork Road. Contract negotiations began in February 2007. The Board's legal counsel participated in review and revision of the contract. The contract was finalized on January 16, 2008.

Contract Terms

The following are the major provisions of the five-year contract:

- Edge ATT must comply with all radio frequency emissions requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- Edge ATT will pay the WRFPD \$10,000 per year with an automatic 3% increase each year.
- The Fire District has the right to place the District's radio equipment on the cell tower.
- The cost of installation and maintenance of a 60 KW emergency generator will be shared by Edge ATT and the WRFPD.
- Edge ATT has the option to renew the contract for 5 additional terms.
- At the termination of the contract, the WRFPD has the option to have the tower, fence and generator removed or to keep the equipment for District use.

Benefits to Williams

Financial Support of the Fire Department –

The additional \$10,000 per year of revenue for the WRFPD is a significant sum. Over the potential life of the contract, the value to the residents of the District is over \$300,000.

Improved Cell Phone Service – Cell phone users in Williams will enjoy more reliable service and more choice among carriers.

Improved Emergency Communications – Cell phones are used for a significant number of emergency calls made to 911. Also, as residents are aware from news stories, cell phones can be used to help locate people lost on Jo County's roads and trails. Improved cell phone service means better access to emergency services. In addition, the Fire Department will be able to install the District's radio communication equipment on the tower which will significantly increase the quality of emergency radio coverage in the Williams Valley.

ART & WINE

submitted by Lou Ann Faist

Williams Artists...Pacifica's Art and Wine Day is happening again this year. On Saturday, May 3rd from 10 am until 4pm, Pacifica will host wine tasting and the sale of functional and fine art. If you'd like to participate, call Lou Ann at 846-6951.

WILLIAMS NATURE TRAIL GROUNDBREAKING, BLESSING & ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

submitted by Shavana Fineberg

Just a reminder - Do come join us!

10 am - Thursday, April 3

206 Tetherow Rd. / SCA Land

WILLIAMS ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL ISSUES FILM SERIES

WILLIAMS GRANGE (7 PM) ****FREE TO ALL****

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

BEING CARIBOU (72 MIN, G)

(A good one for children as well as parents)

Karsten Heuer & Leanne Allison had an unusual honeymoon. They left their remote community of Old Crow, Yukon, to join the Porcupine Caribou Herd on their epic life journey. For 5 months the Canadians migrated on foot with the 123,000-member herd from wintering to calving grounds in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and back again - 1500 km across snow & tundra. They completed their journey on Sept. 8, 2003 and headed straight to Washington, DC to tell politicians and activists what they found.

SUGARLOAF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWS

by Cheryl Bruner

ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING, DINNER, AND ELECTION OF BOARD

Friday April 25th, 6:30 pm, Williams Grange

Calling all old and new members. Come have dinner, become a member if you are not already, and hear and show your support for all the infrastructure work that has been done this year and the well thought out plans in the works for next year.

Board member elections will also occur that night. Several of our key board members are up for re-election and we have four ADDITIONAL positions available. SCA members must submit nominations for new board members before April 23rd to Kathryn Roether at 235 China Creek Rd, Williams OR, 97544, 846-8985 or e-mail kathryn@mcmatters.net.

Bring a dessert to share and dinner is on us.

"ORDER (almost) UP!"

by Bryan Hunter

Our neighborhood café is nearly open, no thanks to the Samaritan who felt compelled to uphold our county's zoning laws. And yet.. thanks to that, we've turned a fledgling (and tasty) diner into a dynamic restaurant & music venue that's about as legal as a business can be. And though mired in a stew of county & state regulations, we've satisfied the myriad of it all (most). Now we await only the state ABQ's decision regarding the place's septic system (fine for a community center, yet not adequate for a restaurant).

In short, the café's creator believed "It's better to ask for 'forgiveness' than it is to beg for permission" and so he never somehow dealt with the Co. Planning Dept (and the zoning issue). Instead, the place received permits from the Co. Health Dept. & the State Liquor Control Commission and that seemed to be enough for a full 3 years. Once 'Planning' got word of the business operation on Exclusive Farm Use zoned land, they offered the café a chance to get it right with a Conditional Use Permit, forcing compliance with every state & county agency available. The original owner hired an adept land use consultant, the place changed hands & we satisfied the many conditions (except ABQ). We have insurance, a lease, bank account & their many other relations intact with vendors & regulators that either help and/or are required to provide this service to the community!

Perhaps it's for the best and that the silver lining is real. Our Grand Re-Opening Celebration is just ahead so you'll have to do your own dishes for just a little while longer. We've remodeled and cleaned a bunch and there's yet another improved menu. You'll see a few new faces devoted to serving you delicious food & drink at our local restaurant, café & community center.

Thanks for your patience,
The staff and owners @ The Out of the Way Café

Classifieds

STORE FRONTS		HEALTH
WILLIAMS GENERAL STORE 846-6212	NOVUS WINDSHIELD REPAIR 474-5646 / 800-848-2225 Winshield Repair, Scratch Removal, Headlight Repair	IONIC DETOX SPA May help remove body toxins & improve health and energy. Home Visits & Gift Certificates Claudia Beausoleil: 846-6092 www.detoxinternationalusa.com
PROVOLT STORE 846-6286 Open Mon.-Sun. 7 am to 9 pm. Coldest beer in town at reasonable prices. We take Credit Cards, Food Stamps and WIC	KENDON LEET REAL ESTATE Rural Property Specialist serving all of So. Oregon w/ emphasis on on Williams & Applegate Valleys. 846-0125 or 660-7996 kendon@kendonleet.com	MASSAGE WITH JOY <i>Healing, Therapeutic Massage</i> Joy LaSpina, L.M.T (state licensed) 846-6833 Experience deep relaxation, stress-reduction, & pain relief.
PENDLETONS' Family Hardware 846-9110 James Pendleton/Owner 161 Tetherow Rd	SKILLED HANDY-MAN For Williams Property Care References Available 761-8159	EFT - EMOTIONAL FREEDOM TECHNIQUES Energy Psychology <i>"Where emotional relief brings physical health."</i> Deborah Fox: EFT Coach - Level 3 Practitioner 846-6380
PINE-ROK REALTY 846-7131 Jo Harrison, Paula Sepolpo, Walter Simpson, Bill Ertel Po Box 203 / 165 Tetherow Rd. pine-rok@budget.net	VACATION RENTAL Creek side Cottage in Wms 1BR furnished cottage-full kitchen. Great for visiting family/friends. \$75 a night dbl occupancy; 2 night min. No kids. Call 846-6227	FOR SALE
WILLIAMS COUNTRY STORE *OPEN EVERY DAY* Diesel, Gas, Propane & Groceries 120 E. Fork Rd 846-1311	LANDSCAPING	DRAGONFLY BABY ORGANICS 100% organic baby/children's clothing, accessories & toys. Happy Healthy Holiday Gifts! Call 846-0848 for free brochure www.dragonflybabyorganics.com
CONSTRUCTION	WHITE WATER LANDSCAPE SERVICES WhiteWaterServices.com 846-9999 Design, Installation, Irrigation, Lighting, Sod, Retaining Walls, Pavers, Water Features & More! LLC, LCB#8312	GOODWIN CREEK GARDENS OPEN NOW Fridays & Saturdays organically grown herbs, flowering perennials 970 Cedar Flat 846-7357
BILL HERNON Carpenter/Painter/Tile Home Improvement & Repair: Finish Work, Fences, Decks, etc. Free Estimates 846-6332 Lic. # 146763	LYNN'S LIVING DESIGNS L.L.C / LCB 7412 Design, Consultation, Landscape, Irrigation cell: 659-3173 • ph: 846-7721 www.lynnlandscapes.com	<i>Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener seems to be only one of the instruments, not the composer.</i> — Geoffrey B. Charlesworth
STONE BY STONE Randy & Jan Laiho 846-7875 C.C.B.-165568 Natural Stone Masonry, Mosaic art, Stained Glass	ADVERTISING GUIDELINES	
JOE FICHTNER EXCAVATION "I Dig Williams" Backhoe • Cat • Dump Truck 846-7665	We accept ads from residents, organizations, and businesses based in Williams. Classified ads: maximum of 125 characters, inclusive of spaces.	
SERVICES	AD COSTS:	
FEARLESS COMPUTER SOLUTIONS Micah Owens: 846-0456 We fix computer problems, sell computer parts, computers! Networking & Internet access! Service: At your desk, or drop it off!	Classes and events: Classified ad: \$2; Display ad: 1/4pg \$4, 1/2 pg \$8 Goods & services, help-wanted, rentals, or for sale ads: Classifieds only: \$4	