



THE FLAME



Volume XXV Issue IX

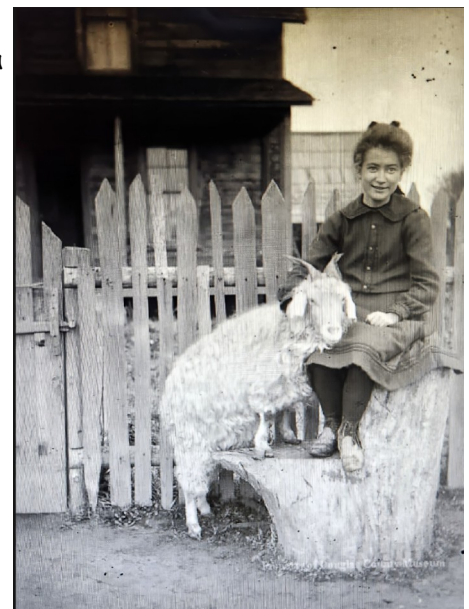
"Put out" by the Camas Valley Fire Department Auxiliary

October 2025

Electricity Comes to Camas Valley: The Rest Of The Story

Recently the Douglas Electric Cooperative facebook page posted a picture and article about how the Cooperative was born from a letter Bessie Wheeler wrote to the Rural Electrification Administration. Here is a little more to the story.

Esther (Bessie) Brown was born in Osburn Nebraska in 1890. Bessie was the youngest of 8 children. In 1898 her father traded their property in Nebraska with the Wilson family, for their property in Camas Valley. The house is still standing at the end of Main Camas Road. After the death of her sister Millie in 1908, she became the main caretaker for her parents. After her parents deaths she became more active in the Methodist church, Grange and the school. In 1934 Ernest (Ernie) Wheeler arrived in the valley. Ernie, originally from England, had just sold his property in Canada and was looking for a place to buy. Ernie and Bessie, both being 45, met at the Methodist church and were married there on July 26, 1935. They settled into the house on Main Camas and raised registered milking shorthorns and chickens. They named their 90-acre farm Weown Farms after seeing the name on a boat during a trip to the coast. It was during her tenure as secretary of the Camas Valley Grange that she was asked by Grange president H.C. Kelley to write a letter to Washington D.C. to find out the cheapest, easiest way for Camas Valley to get electricity. Bessie wasn't confident that anything would come of it but the following year the West Douglas Electric Cooperative was incorporated and a year later the first section of line was energized to serve 200 members. Eventually a North Douglas cooperative was formed in 1941. A year later the two were joined to form the present electric cooperative. The Wheelers got electricity in the fall of 1939. Bessie's first electric appliance purchase was an iron, and then a refrigerator. Surviving family members remember Bessie as having bright blue eyes and being very small in stature and weighing less than 100 pounds. Her marksmanship with her single-gage shot gun was remarkable, often killing hawks that were flying off with her chickens. Ernie and Bessie celebrated 30 years together before she passed away in 1965.



Bessie in the early 1900's

We Appreciate Your Support!

We received donations this month from:

Rentz Living Trust

The Flame is published using donations only.
They may be mailed to:

Vonnie Wallace
1200 Westside Road
Camas Valley, OR 97416

Please make checks payable to
Camas Valley Rural Fire District
and designate them for **THE FLAME**.



The Outpost Mobile Food Pantry will be in the
Grange parking lot on October 9th & 23rd from
1:00p.m. to 3:00p.m.

THE FLAME

The Flame is a monthly publication of the Camas Valley Rural Fire District Auxiliary. The mission of this newsletter is to keep the residents of Camas Valley informed about the events and activities of the fire department, churches, school and civic organizations that are in Camas Valley.

The Flame is provided free to all residents of Camas Valley by mail and anywhere by email.

***To submit
articles:
Items must be in
by the 20th***

Submit to:

Jan Baker at **541-680-5616**
Michelle Mickelson at
541-817-3621
camasvalleyflame@gmail.com

EMAIL FLAME ISSUES



Email allows you to
keep friends and family that have left the
valley up to date with community events.
Email subscribers receive a color copy
of The Flame by the 25th each month.

Send your name and email address to:
camasvalleyflame@gmail.com to start
receiving your digital copy each month.



OCTOBER



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Camas Valley Grange



Oct 7th



Grange Business Meeting
At 6:30pm

Oct 10th



Bingo Night
At 6:00pm

Oct 16th



Grange Community Dinner
Doors open at 6:00pm





CAMAS VALLEY
COMMUNITY GRANGE

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Get Ready to Sparkle and Shop!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15TH

10:00AM – 4:00PM

Our community Christmas Craft Fair is just around the corner, offering unique, handmade holiday gifts, beautiful decorations, and festive fun for all ages

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Handmade gifts & decor
- Festive holiday treats & cozy beverages
- Lunch available
- Raffle tickets for a basket of goodies

CALL OR TEXT 541-637-9774 FOR
VENDOR INFO

Join us to celebrate the season, support local makers,
and find that perfect holiday gift!



CAMAS CHRISTMAS CRAWL MEETING



OCTOBER

TUESDAY

14TH

At 6:30pm

CAMAS VALLEY GRANGE

COME HELP US PLAN OUR CAMAS CHRISTMAS
CRAWL AT THE CAMAS VALLEY GRANGE, IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO HELP OR PARTICIPATE WITH THIS
YEARS EVENT, WE WOULD LIKE TO GET YOUR
CONTACT INFORMATION FROM YOU
CHRISTMAS CRAWL EVENT OR
CALL PAM AT 541-696-5507

Camas Valley Volunteer Fire Department Calls



August 30th at 1:06a.m.

While returning from a separate fire call, Camas Valley Fire Brush Truck 4281 arrived at Milepost 49 on Highway 42 to find a small fire burning on top of a concrete K-barrier. The fire consisted of stacked vehicle parts that had been deliberately ignited. Crews quickly extinguished the flames and began investigating the scene. During this time, a second fire was spotted approximately 300 yards further westbound along Highway 42. Units moved to the location and extinguished another pile of plastic vehicle parts that had also been intentionally set on fire. Based on the condition of the burning material, both fires were determined to have been recently lit, as crews had passed through the same area earlier without seeing any signs of fire. Personnel began searching the area for additional fires and possible suspects, as evidence suggested someone remained nearby. Oregon State Police and the Coos Forest Protective Association (CFPA) were notified of the situation and responded. Approximately 30 minutes into the search, a male subject was observed walking along the highway near where the fires had originated. Responders attempted to make contact, but the individual was uncooperative and declined to answer questions. Oregon State Police arrived on scene, collected evidence from the fires, and assumed investigative authority. One arrest has been made; the incident is still under investigation. Responding units from Camas Valley Fire included Brush Trucks 4281, 4290, and Tender 4260 with 5 volunteer firefighters total.

Fire Prevention Week October 5-11



Lithium-Ion Battery Safety



Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

The Problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Signs of a Problem

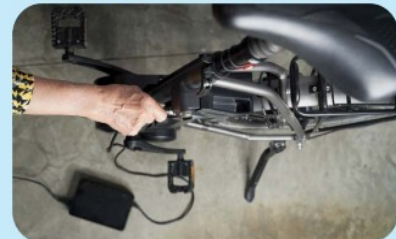
Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

Recycle Batteries Responsibly

Don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit call2recycle.org to find a recycling spot near you.

Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.





ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

HIGH SCHOOL

FOOTBALL

10/3	7:00p.m.	vs. Glendale
10/10	7:00p.m.	@ Chiloquin
10/17	7:00p.m.	vs. Prospect
10/24	7:00p.m.	vs. Riddle
10/31	7:00p.m.	@Crosspoint Christian

VOLLEYBALL

10/2	6:00p.m.	vs. Umpqua Valley Christian
10/7	6:00p.m.	@Pacific
10/9	6:00p.m.	vs. North Douglas
10/14	6:00p.m.	@Yoncalla
10/16	6:00p.m.	vs. Powers

MIDDLE SCHOOL

FOOTBALL

10/7	4:00p.m.	vs. Days Creek
10/14	4:00p.m.	vs. Elkton
10/21	4:00p.m.	vs. Powers

VOLLEYBALL

10/1	4:30p.m.	@Canyonville
10/6	4:30p.m.	vs. Glendale
10/8	4:30p.m.	vs. Powers
10/11	9:00a.m.	LFL B Tournament@ S.Umpqua HS
10/13	4:30p.m.	vs. Riddle
10/14	4:30p.m.	@Days Creek



CAMAS VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Camas Valley,

Words and dialogue matter. This past month, Charlie Kirk was killed on a college campus. He believed that to heal this nation, we need God, we need to focus on family, he believed in the Constitution, and he loved his country. The way he chose to deliver his message to young people was to go on college campuses and have open debate, dialogue, and conversation. A lot of college campuses have been a hostile environment for a long time now when it comes to free speech. In education, there should always be dialogue, debate, and conversation, which in turn leads to critical thinking for young people, especially in a time when young people are consumed by cell phones, the internet, and video games. Different sides should be shared, and we should be allowed to agree or disagree. If we can't do that in our educational system, we will continue to spiral downhill. Of course, you can disagree with me, and if you feel led, we can have dialogue, debate, and conversation.....in person.

With care,

Mr. Wonsley

CVCS Superintendent/Principal

Library News

What: Winter Book Fair

When: December 1st-9th

Where: Camas Valley School Library

Who: SkyTree Book Fairs

Why: Books-I need more books!!!



More information to come as we get closer to the book fair date.



October



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

			1	2 CVHS Volleyball 6p.m.vs.U.V.C.	3 CVHS Football 7p.m.vs. Glendale	4
5	6 Fire Dept. Training 6p.m.	7 CVHS Volleyball 6p.m.@Pacific Grange business mtg. 6:30p.m.	8	9 Outpost Mobile Pantry 1-3p.m CVHS Volleyball 6p.m.vs. N.Douglas	10 Grange Bingo @6:00p.m. CVHS Football 7p.m.@ Chiloquin	11
12	13 Fire Dept. Board Mtg.5:00p.m. Fire Dept. Training 6p.m.	14 CVHS Volleyball 6p.m.@ Yoncalla Christmas Crawl mtg. 6:30p.m.	15	16 CVHS Volleyball 6p.m.vs. Powers Grange community dinner 6p.m.	17 CVHS Football 7p.m. vs. Prospect	18
19	20 Fire Dept. Training 6p.m.	21	22	23 Outpost Mobile Pantry 1-3p.m	24 CVHS Football 7p.m. vs. Riddle	25
26	27 Fire Dept. Training 6p.m.	28	29	30	31 CVHS Football 7p.m. @ Crosspoint Christian	

Camas Valley Business Directory



Autobody repair/paint

**Green Collision
Repair/Horizon
Autobody**
Marvin & DeVoogd
M-F, 8-5
541-679-6100

Beauty

Nails by Crystal
Crystal Cummings
541-643-7253
Thurs.—Sun., 9-4

Scissor Trix
Jennie Plikat
By appt.
541-733-1919
Or in Green at
4886 Grange Rd.
541-236-7086

Christmas trees, U-cut / wholesale

**Calico Christmas
Trees**
Shari White
Nov. & Dec.
7 days/wk 9-4:30
541-670-0458

Construction

AMSI
Bill Lindsey
Mon.-Sat., 8-7
541-643-0366

Electrical Contractor

Sabin Electric
Generac generator
Sales/maintenance/
Installation/repair
M-S 7am-6pm
541-440-3792
541-445-2070

Eng. consulting design/ drafting

TV Design, LLC
Troy I. Vanderhoof,
P.E.
M-F, 9:00-17:00
541-643-0138

Fire Equipment/Services

**Dia-Cast Fire
Services**
Sales / Rentals
Defensible space
clearing/cleaning
Don/Diane Casteel
541-643-8556

Garbage Disposal

**Camas Valley
Disposal**
Byron & Jodi Peck
Wkly. Wed. pick-up
541-445-2245

Handcrafted gifts

**Country Crafts &
Graphics**
Janna Vanderhoof
M-F, 9-5 or appt.
541-643-1934

**Frosted Treasure
Designs**
Lori Ross
541-637-9774

Frostedtreasuredesign@gmail.

Handyman, small construction/remodel

Evertrade Const.
Aaron Blake
M-F, 9-5
541-335-9108

Health

Cody Summer Health
Certified health &
wellness coach CTNC
Functional Health
Practitioner trainee(FDN)
www.codysummerhealth.com
541-203-3033

**Onesimus Health
Services, LLC**
Leslie Abbott, FNP,BC
Primary
CareStaff@onesimushealth.com
541-391-7506

**Plexus worldwide
Supplements**
Charman Shields
541-430-3600
www.plexusslim.com
charmanshields

Honey Bee Swarm/Hive Removal

Eve Scott
503-302-6323

Housekeeping

Maid in the Shade
Lisa Muller
541-430-1974

Local Artist, consignment

Local Art
Toby Teachman
Open anytime (within
reason) Ring doorbell on
shop or call
541-243-3315

Locksmith, keys /locks

**Camas Valley Key
Shop**
Bruce Jehning
7days/wk
24 hr. emerg.
541-445-2014

Logging

Scofield Logging
Josiah Scofield
541-435-5759

Sewing

**Kimberly Carter
Seamstress**
Clothing Alterations &
Repairs
541-733-6343

Media Development

Agent of the Wild
realty services, expert
photography, film
making, drone imaging,
media development
Dan Amos
541-430-2668
agentofthewild@protonmail.com

Notary/Post Office

CV Post Office
Vickie Farmer
M-F 8-3 Sat 10-2
541-445-2177
541-643-5059

Pest Control

Bugguy Exterminating
Gregg Socia
M-F, 8-5 /as needed
541-537-0845
bugguyterm@gmail.com

Photography

Velocity in Focus
Barb Casteel
541-643-8592
www.velocityinfocus.com
velocityinfocus@gmail.com

Portable sawmill service

**Backwoods
Custom Milling**
Harvey Saul
541-671-1993

Rental, Storage.

BK Mini Storage
Ketti & Bill Walker
7 days/wk.,
daylight-dark
541-445-2902

Septic systems

**Lounsbury Const. &
Excavation**
Richard Lounsbury
541-505-4685

Small engine repair

Hunt's Chainsaw
Theran Hunt
M-F **541-430-7283**

Camas Valley Churches

Camas Valley Missionary Church	Camas Valley Christian Fellowship	Camas Valley United Methodist
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am	Morning Worship 10:00 am	Morning Worship 9:00 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am	& Sunday School	Fellowship 10:00 am
Youth Church 11:00 am	<u>Monday</u>	w/ beverages and snacks
<u>Wednesday</u>	Intercessory Prayer 9:00 am	
Prayer Group 6:00 pm		

Camas Valley Volunteer Fire Department
PO Box 220
Camas Valley, OR 97416

Non Profit Organization
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Tenmile, OR 97481
Standard Mail A

CAMAS VALLEY PO BOXHOLDER
CAMAS VALLEY, OR 97416