

ALSEA REGULAR EVENTS CALENDAR

Event	Place	Day	Time	Phone
Alsea Community Effort ACE - Board Meeting	Alsea Library, community room	2nd Tuesday quarterly	5:30pm	Lib. 541-487-5061
Alsea Fire Dept. Board Meeting	Alsea Fire Hall	Last Tuesday monthly	7:00pm	541-487-8701
Alsea Fire Dept. General Meeting		Every Wednesday	7:00pm	
Alsea 4-H Small Animal Club		1 st and 3 rd Thursdays	6:00-7:00pm	541-207-6552
Alsea Wolverine's Booster Club				
Alsea Food Bank - Jeni's Place	Jeni's Place	Every Thursday	10:00 -6:00pm	541-487-3663
Alsea Garden Club	ACF Church	2 nd Saturday monthly	6:00pm	541-487-5191
Men's Bible Study		1 st Saturday monthly	8:00-9:00am	541-487-4442
Alsea HOPE Grange	Grange Hall	1 st Thursday monthly	6:00pm	541-486-4215
Alsea School Board Meeting	School Library	2 nd Wednesday monthly	7:00pm	541-487-4305
Alsea Valley Gleaners - Board Meeting	18889 Haines Road Alsea	Monday following last Thursday monthly	5:30-7:00pm	541-487-5002
Alsea Valley Gleaners Distributions		Every Thursday	10:00-3:00pm	
Stitch & Rip Quilting Club	Various (please call)	Every Monday	10:00-3:00pm	541-487-8011

ALSEA VALLEY VOICE

Alsea Community Effort
19192 Alsea Highway
Alsea, OR 97324

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Permit No. 135**

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Alsea, OR 97324

Winter 2021

Winter 2021

Alsea Valley Voice

The Thyme Garden Annual Fall Salmon Celebration Lives On!

By Janet Hagen

I gathered with the staff at The Thyme Garden at the end of the 5th day of the Fall Salmon Celebration. Initially I worried that they might be too worn out from the 5 day-long experience but found them to be exuberant at the completion of a successful event!

The celebration had to be skipped in 2020 due to COVID, of course, as were the majority of in-person events. But this year, with safety precautions in place, they were back! The event is an elaborate affair starting each day at 1 o'clock with appetizers, followed by a walk along The Thyme Garden salmon restoration stream. On return from their walk, guests are treated to a warming cup of seafood soup, and a seated, 5 course dinner in the rustic shelter. The food, as always, emphasized local, seasonal flavor. The Thyme Garden provided beets, kale, herbs, fresh oranges, and lemons from the conservatory, complimented by chanterelles sourced locally. As well as the fabulous food, they enjoyed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Library Lines

by Kathy Koetz

December is here and the weather is "iffy". Do I go out and do those last-minute-before-winter-chores? Or do I stay inside and bake something wonderful? Maybe cookies, maybe a pie. How about a rich chocolate cake? Maybe something else entirely! We have so many cookbooks to choose from! Come by your library to browse our shelves or go online and browse the entire catalog. You are sure to find something that you would like to try!

While looking through the catalog you might come across some craft books. We have holiday crafts for all seasons as well as books dedicated to knitting, crocheting, felting, origami, etc. Crafts books for all levels and ages are available to you and your family. Does anyone want to learn to play a harmonica? We have a book for that! Also piano, guitar, ukulele and more!

Tired of crafting and just want to be cozy and watch something? Try Kanopy on our library home page. With just your library card you can access critically acclaimed movies, documentaries, and even foreign films. And Kanopy for Kids (on the children's page) has an amazing amount of content just right for younger ages, from movies to TV shows to Storytimes, you are sure to find something for everybody!

Library Hours are:

Monday & Wednesday – 10:00 am -4:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 12:00 pm -7:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am -4:00pm



LOCAL NON-PROFIT MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION HOLDS BOARD DIRECTOR'S ELECTIONS.

Alsea Valley Gleaners, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, located in the town of Alsea has been providing food, household needs and firewood to the families in the Alsea community and the surrounding area since 2001.

Two of Alsea Valley Gleaners' Board of Director positions are up for election in 2021. Those positions being Executive Director and Secretary currently being held by incumbents, Amber Winterbourne and John Winterbourne, respectively.

In addition to the top two positions up for election, other board positions including those filled temporarily will be voted on by the membership at the January meeting.

The organization's nomination committee is beginning the nomination process which will end December 1, 2021 with vetting of the nominees to follow. Elections scheduled to take place January 15, 2022.

Several current members that are throwing their "hats in the ring" for the positions of Executive Director, Secretary and Treasurer, have posted their notices of intent to seek nominations. Additional candidates may be forthcoming.

Election results will be posted in the February issue of the Alsea Valley Voice,

Good Luck to all the candidates and may the best person(s) win.


Submitted by Sandra Goad AVG Member.



Kingfishers Perch
Bed & Breakfast
 Relaxing riverside retreat
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[Airbnb.com/rooms/16014044](https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/16014044)



Mark and Shannon Shepherd
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Veterinary Service
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Commitment, Sportsmanship, Team = Wolverines Football

By Terry Lunsford

Now that you're familiar with how six-man football came about here in Alsea, let's find out what makes this team so special.

There is a core amount of players who have been here all their lives and involved in the six-man program. There are also players that have come in the last few years and even this year we have new players.

Head Coach Tim France and Assistant Coach Joe Martinez worked on our 2020 program, but it became evident due to Covid and state restrictions that we were not going to have a fall Athletic program. This was disappointing for all the Wolverine athletes. But we still worked on conditioning and the hope of having our fall season in the spring of 2021.

That season started in the beginning of March and it was very interesting playing football in the early spring. We proudly finished that season with a 6-1 record.

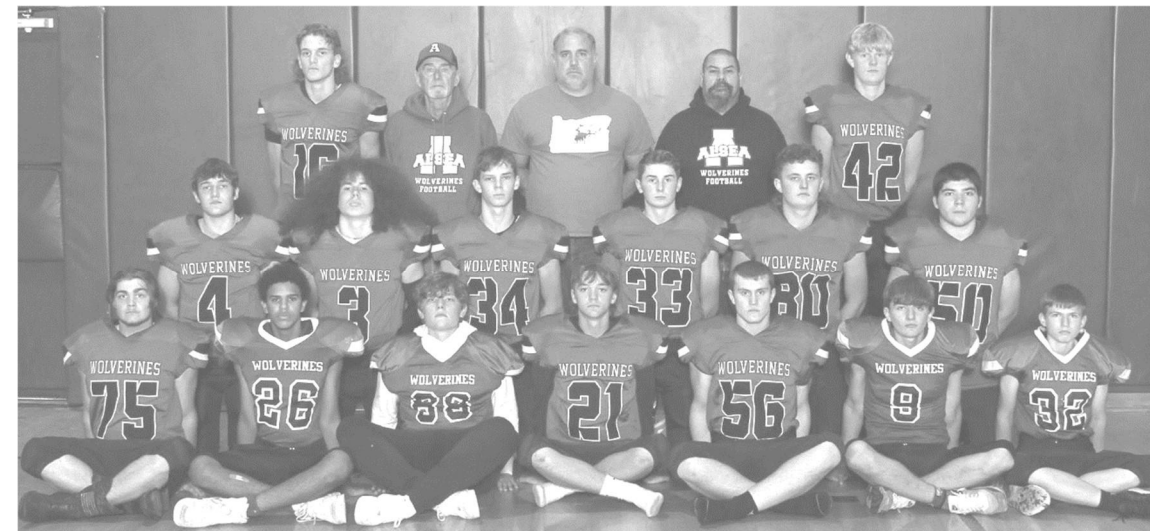
Our coaches continued to work on our program for the fall of 2021. This fall, Coach France and Coach Martinez were joined by Coach Leroy Lunsford who is the injury/ equipment manager for the team. Our schedule started out with seven games, but that was shortened to five after two teams dropped out of the league this year. Our regular season record this fall was 4-1.

The team: All of the players work hard in practices, work on the plays, and watch film. Their growth starts in learning commitment during the summer workouts and fundraising by bucking hay, and then continues throughout each week of the season. As their coaches teach them the techniques and fundamentals, beneath all that is the commitment, the sportsmanship, the teamwork, that they're being taught. And most important, that each player is valued.

Some of the strong attributes of our team are their support of each other, their talent and most of the time, the ability to get out of their own head. Most athletes know the term, "get in your own head", and it could happen to anyone but I have seen this team pull together when things are going badly. Several times when it looked like they could give up mentally, they rallied, believed and pulled themselves out of it.

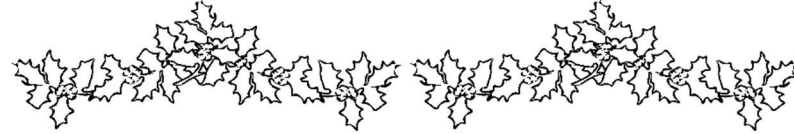
The highlights of this team are just too many to list in this article. But I'd like to give you a couple.

Because of only having a six-man line-up, the offense and defense can be interchangeable, so we have a lot of kids who played both. In this game, blocking and tackling is huge on both sides. We are one of the few teams to actually have a kicker for field goals, which is not very common in six-man football. We have had amazing throws and catches resulting in many touchdowns.



#	Name	Year
34	Aaron Sapp	11
50	Brandon Browning	11
42	Braydan Connour	12
12	Brandon Thomas	9
80	Chance Stone	11
69	Chevy Coates	12
32	Christopher Foster	9
88	Colton Hibbs	11
3	Dale Martinez	11
4	Dawson Clendenin	11
56	Ethan Cantrell	10
9	Garrett Hibbs	12
75	Gunner Kill	10
21	Hunter Pedder	10
23	Owen Aldous	11
33	Parker Crowe	9
16	Peyton Olsen	11

Alsea Hope Grange
Annual Christmas Bazaar
Help support local artisans, vendors, and the Grange



December 4th 2021
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

BAKED GOODS

various baked treats, pie slices, whole pies, and hot apple cider
(Community volunteers)

HAND CRAFTED ITEMS

hand crocheted and felted hats, (Mad Hatter Fiber Arts), watercolor paintings, candles, bath bombs,
jewelry,

WOOD CRAFTS

Various wood items (Gary's Woodshop)

ALSEA SPIRIT WEAR

Alsea Wolverine Booster Club

SPECIALTY FOODS

Wild Gourmet Canned Albacore Tuna and Chinook Salmon

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS AND DECORATIONS

signs, ornaments, wire and felted, wrapped suncatchers

AND MUCH MORE!!!!

Usborne books, skin care (Avon)



Santa will be coming for a visit at 11:00-12:30

For more information or if you are a vendor and would like to rent a space, please contact Julie Hendrix 541-486-4125, juliehendrix@peak.org or Samantha Pedder 541-740-1596, pedderfam2013@gmail.com

Alsea Food Bank

By Adam Skaer

Imagine a mouthwatering Thanksgiving feast with all the trimmings. Go all out; put in your grandma's pie and your favorite sweet melty-marshmallow concoction that we somehow still call a salad. Now imagine you're eating it – alone.

Sure, you can fill up the silence with TV or scroll endlessly through pictures of other people's lives, but we all know it's just not the same. People need food, but sometimes we're slow to realize just how much we all need friendship. Conversation. A chance to slow down and just visit.

That's why Jeni's Place, the Alsea Food bank, exists to do more than simply supply our clients with a 3-5 day supply of food each week. That's only part of our mission. As a ministry of Alsea Christian Fellowship, our larger goal is to help people find and follow Jesus. We work to accomplish this by building friendships and getting to know the people in our community.

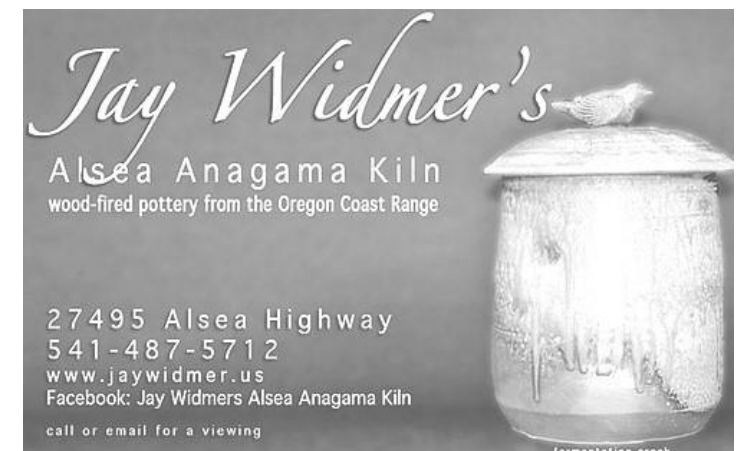
For those who need to load up and go, we can do that. But most of our clients, well...let's just say we could write our own Foxfire books just from their stories. War stories, tales of the old logging days, adventures with stubborn livestock – or even rattlesnakes. We meet travelers, farmers, educators; we're getting to know our neighbors, and it turns out they're some great folks.

We're open on Thursdays between 10AM and 6PM. Swing by to pick up a food, drop in to visit, or do both. Bring your hardest questions about God, your funny fish story, or try to beat James at Chess (He's 12. You can do this.). We'd love to get to know you!

If you're interested in helping out at the Jeni's Place, you can do that by;

- Donating food and hygiene items during business hours.
- Donating funds (P.O. Box # 9).
- Volunteering (We're fully staffed at this time, but let Adam know if you're interested; we're always looking to train more volunteers).

For any questions, contact Adam Skaer (541) 602-7732, or skaerfam@gmail.com



Six-Man Football is Alive and Well in Oregon

By Terry Lunsford

1956 & 1957 - Alsea placed 2nd in the State 6-man Championship. In 1958 Alsea Wolverines won the State Championship. In 1959 they did not make the playoffs. And in 1960 they switched from 6-man to 8-man. Those were the glory years with Jack Bowen, Web Vernon and Steve Cantrell, just to name a few of many.

2018 - Rural schools have steadily lost the ability to compete due to lack of players. OSAA started a pilot program for six-man football to test the interest and need. It is based on Montana rules.

Summer of 2018 coaches came from all over Oregon and a few from Washington, to meet in Hermiston for training, put on by OSAA and Montana experts. Alsea started with middle school football. Leroy Lunsford and Scotty France attended the training and came back excited to start this pilot program. That was the beginning of our journey to the 2021 playoffs.

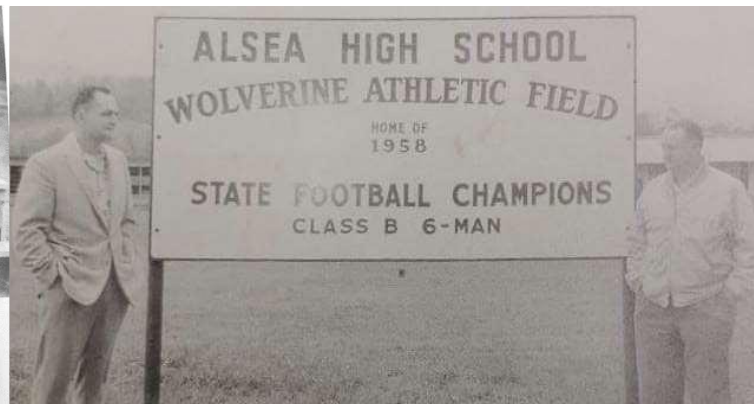
Coach Leroy Lunsford continued with middle school in 2019 and Coach Joe Martinez, with his HS experience, started High School on the six-man path. Coach Tim France, who has many football accolades of his own, came to join our six-man program in 2020. With the help of many others, the program took off, especially with middle school and high school working together so that these athletes could be transitioned with six-man knowledge into high school. Now, we have a strong program. Six-man football is exciting and fast paced. The main difference between six-man and eight-man, which we used to play, is:

1. The field is supposed to be 80 x 40 yards, smaller than a normal football field. Since this was a pilot program, the field has been 100 x 40 due to the expense of moving those goalposts. We are not sure when that will change.
2. First downs are 15 yards not 10.
3. The quarterback cannot run the football.
4. Everyone on the field is an eligible receiver, even the quarterback once - he hands off the ball.

Because this was a pilot program, OSAA did not officially rank six-man football. According to our understanding, next year six-man football will be ranked by OSAA. There are currently 24 teams in the six-man league in Oregon, two of them did not have viable teams this year. But we are looking forward to having our full league next year and many years to come.



Top Row (Left to Right): Mr. Cardon, Steve Cantrell, Ted Kane, Leslie Steeprow, Jerry Strom, Carl Hendrix, Willard Reed, Richard Steeprow, Lloyd Dixon, Mr. Schmidt. Bottom Row: Myron Crawford, Jack Neuman, Ernie Fliger, Larry Seits, Martin Engel, Joe Hendrix, Jim Steeprow, Web Vernon, Ted Haines, Kenny Wingfield.



Shop Local

By Kathy Adair

This community is probably one of the best I have ever lived in. Besides such community support, we also have a lot of talented people and businesses who are local with their goods and services. By local, I mean Waldport to Philomath-ish. For some, these recent challenging times have given them more work and for others, it has been a struggle to make ends meet.

We clearly have folks who have chicken eggs, meat, goat cheese, plants and so much more. But, we also have electricians, contractors, plumbers, cafes and restaurants, stores and more. Then, there are the talented folks who make things such as furniture, wood working, hand crafts, soap, and such.

This being said, buying local whenever we can, helps to keep our community strong. Kerry and I recently enlisted a local electrician to hard wire our hot tub to 220 volt. We also had a local contractor come in and replace a bunch of windows and doors from aluminum to vinyl and fix a number of soffits.

Did you know that John Boy's Mercantile wouldn't have the great Lochmead Dairy products if it wasn't for the school meal program? Please do yourself a favor and support both our Mercantile and Lochmead Dairy by purchasing your dairy products from the Merc. Of course, don't limit yourself to just dairy products (best milk and ice cream around, just sayin'), but take advantage of all of the other great things available.

Our local Alsea businesses employ a number of locals to work. By purchasing local, we also help keep our people employed.

The gas tanks are a work in progress and need to be replaced. This will require a grant and some extra support, but there is an effort in the works. In the meantime, supporting our Mercantile is important.

Please consider buying local as much as you can. For those of you with small or large businesses, please consider purchasing advertising through this paper (Alsea Valley Voice). The proceeds not only get your business out there, but also help us publish this paper. I know my husband and I come back to the AVV looking for advertisements throughout the month. If you are interested in buying an advertisement in the AVV, please contact Pauline Tanaka at Pauline.tanaka@gmail.com.

Bicycling the Highway

Elderly woman in crash on Alsea Highway

By KEZI, edited.

[On highway 34] an elderly woman from Benton County [was fatally injured] after a crash involving a pickup truck and [her] bicycle on Highway 34 on Sunday morning [November 28th], according to police.

Reports of the crash came in at about 10:20 a.m., police said. The crash happened near Decker Road just west of Philomath.

Both the pickup truck and the woman, who was riding a bicycle, [were] traveling westbound on Highway 34.

A Philomath police officer performed CPR, but the woman died at the scene.

Police said no charges have been filed against the driver at this time. They said speed did not appear to be a factor in the crash. They also said impairment did not seem to be a factor. There is currently an ongoing investigation into the circumstances behind the crash.

No other injuries were reported, according to police.

The highway [was] closed following the crash, five miles west of the intersection with [highway] 20.

Benton County Sheriff's Office is taking the lead on the investigation.

The sheriff's office wants to remind drivers to watch for bicyclists and remind bicyclists to watch out for vehicles on the road.

Holiday Giving Tree

The High School Girls Basketball Team provided a Holiday Giving Tree. Knowing there was a need in the community they offered to aid parents in this Christmas season. They did a wonderful service to our community in helping provide presents to families.

While this years' Giving Tree has already been facilitated, see how you can help out or take part in next years'.



Musings from ACE President's Corner

By Naomi Shadwick, Volunteer President

The ACE Board along with several of the volunteers who help in publishing the Alsea Valley Voice met several times since the September issue of the Alsea Valley Voice was published to determine the best way to keep this valuable communications tool alive in Alsea and the surrounding area. We enjoyed putting the special issue together to honor our dear friend Barbara Trask for all the community service she performed over the years. What we did not expect was that it was going to cost so much money and volunteer effort to get it done.

We came together to plan how we are going to approach the Alsea Valley Voice publication going forward. We plan to do increase the number of issues to six to allow for more current information and be able to cut down on the number of pages to save on the cost of production. There are other processing elements we are experimenting with as well.

We want Alsea Community Effort and the Alsea Valley Voice to reflect a diverse community with commitment to inclusion of all views. We want to welcome input from the long- time residents and from the recently new neighbors so that the paper and our working on community projects will reflect interest, enthusiasm, and coordination of effort.

We have received a one- year planning and community outreach grant from Oregon Community Foundation. The project will begin in January after the holidays. We will be reaching out to community residents to participate in this process. A big component of the process will be to look at our emergency preparedness plan and get greater participation in the community planning.

Also in reference to emergency preparedness, our back-up generator for the library project has hit a delay. The demand for generators is up significantly and the generator we chose that would meet the needs of the community is on back-order for four months. We will complete the project as soon as we can get it.

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the beautiful white clothed tables with autumnal bouquets under a covered "sky" of twinkling white lights. For the outdoor décor, rather than the sidewalks we are all getting used to at our outdoor eating locations, they enjoyed the sounds of nature, such as the babble of the streams and occasional raindrops pattering on the roof; as well as the visual pleasures of the plentiful ferns, golden hues of large leaf maples and huge stumps left by past logging.

The weather had been predicted as rain, rain, and more rain for each day of the celebration, and in fact there had been an "atmospheric river" forecast! Several guests had called to question if they could not only get here, but get home again; but the universe cooperated and they found that the weather in large part was much better than expected for at least the length of their visit.

Just as the weather cooperated, the timing for the fish runs also worked out and the Chinook and Coho salmon both attended the celebration too, albeit in their respective streams. After all, that is the intent of the gathering. The salmon restoration was done for the sake of the fish, but the celebration is to be able to share the spawning of the fish and observe the return of the salmon on their long adventure upstream to excitedly reproduce.

The Salmon Celebration is quite an event to be involved in. People of all ages marveled at the majesty of the event, even one woman in her 80's who had never seen salmon spawning before. The Thyme Garden's staff feel quite honored to be able to share this event with others who might never know the beauty and excitement inspired by this dramatic cycle of life.

The event was attended by local folks but also people from as far away as Portland and after each daily event complimentary comments would come in by phone or email. Here's a sampling of what they said:

Hi there! I wanted to send you a quick note to tell you how glad I was to attend your Salmon Festival today, with my friends. We came from Portland and called ahead since we were going to be late (we ended up making it only 45 minutes late) and were urged to get there before the Salmon Walk. Am I glad we did! I've never seen salmon spawning in nature: it was amazing!

Thanks so much for inviting the public to see this amazing natural process. The food was phenomenal, and the staff (and visitors) were lovely! I've purchased seeds from you for years, (all of my Echinops plants are from you guys) but have never been. We look forward to making the Autumn Salmon festival a yearly event for us!! Thanks again!

Another person, who attended "solo" let us know she enjoyed her tablemates so much that they traded e-mails, and yet another couple let The Thyme Garden know that they'd used this holiday as their Thanksgiving dinner. It's not the first time The Thyme Garden has heard people exclaim that the holidays have officially begun. now.

This year, the walk was particularly exciting as there had been improvements made by Steve Trask with Trask Consulting in conjunction with Evan Hayduk with MidCoast Watersheds Council, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and the Northwest Oregon Restoration Partnership. Logs were provided by



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Georgia-Pacific. The restoration requires upkeep and management, much the same as tending a garden. When Rolfe Hagen at The Thyme Garden noted some areas of concerns that might have ruined the initial project, they knew there was the necessity of further restoration.

On the walk, guests were shown the new areas of fish habitat and were able to participate in the rare site of the beginning of the stream bed establishment. Next year it will only be better. When people get to spend time in the outdoors, they establish a bond with nature, and it helps raise their awareness. It gives them an opportunity to think of ways they can participate, like joining their watershed councils, attending habitat enhancing events such as this, and all their life they will be able to expand on this awareness.

When asked if next year would be an outside under the shelter event, or indoors as in the recent past, sisters Emily Stimac and Bethany Glanville smiled and said, "Next year is the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the project, whatever we do, it will be a big celebration!"

For more information about this or other Thyme Garden events and offerings, go to: www.thymegarden.com.

Remember, you might come as a stranger, but you will leave as part of The Thyme Garden family.

Questions: 541-487-8671

