



# Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 9 No. 3

Spring 2024

[www.blackbutte.k12.or.us](http://www.blackbutte.k12.or.us)



The PTO organized Run Yer Butte Off Jog-a-Thon on May 10th was a huge success! Students collectively ran 63 miles to raise funds for upcoming trips in Spring 2025.

Welcome to the BBS Quarterly Newsletter!

Find news and updates, student journalism, photos, and more.



Snow, Sun and Swim ... Must be Spring!



# News & Updates

## Volunteer of the Year!



**Kenzie Ruckman** was presented with the Volunteer of the Year award for 2024! Kenzie's volunteer efforts span a huge variety of tasks: trapping gophers in the BBS field, cooking brisket for the campout, hosting game stations at the Halloween party, making holiday bows for wreaths, creating a tool for easier and better bow making, spearheading a Wreath Recycling program, securing Jogathon sponsorships, and the list goes on!

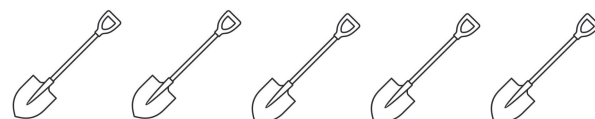
Kenzie's ability to creatively see what needs to be done is one of her biggest talents.

**THANK YOU Kenzie** for all that you do; we are endlessly grateful.

## Construction Begins!

Teachers and staff are busy in this final week of school, packing up all the contents of the building. Field trips are stacked every day this week so students are off campus and staff can work on filling boxes. Everything will be put into a storage container (located on the basketball court) during construction.

On June 14th, the last day of school, community members are welcome to join students in a Groundbreaking ceremony. Construction officially begins on June 17th with asbestos abatement as the first task. There are two phases of construction: Phase 1 includes remodeling the interior of the existing building to be completed by September. Phase 2 will include the new classroom addition and MPR (multi-purpose room) to be completed in Spring 2025.



## Community Spotlight

Camp Sherman resident Bethanne Fry organized the 2nd Annual Deputy Dave Bike Safety Rodeo at BBS on May 31st.

With sunny skies overhead, students received bike tune-ups & fittings from SCSRFD volunteers Christi & Brian, practiced riding on a safety course (lower graders) and an obstacle course & trail ride (upper graders).

Some of our youngest riders started the day scared of even getting on the bike. The safe and fun atmosphere quickly bolstered their confidence and they were all smiles at the end of the day. Black Butte Ranch Police Department volunteers Christina and Rob Schulz and Officer Joey did an amazing job putting the kids at ease and it was truly rewarding to see their confidence soar.

**Thank you Bethanne** for spearheading this awesome event! We can't wait for next year!





# Student Journalism

## Crazy Cliffside Museum

By Cade, Grade 8

Have you ever wanted to go see the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in person? Probably not but this article will show you all of the fun things we did there with our school on the End of Year field trip. And maybe after this article you will want to go see it for yourself.

First when we got to the museum we all ate lunch after a long bus ride and then headed inside where we met our guide named Martin. Then she showed us around and we saw some of Columbia's river history. Did you know that the Celilo village was around for about 11,000 years! And it was a big trading center for the tribes too and people would come from all over for that event. [Continued on p. 4](#)

## Grange Hall and Camp Kiwanilong

By Zoe, Grade 5

On the End of Year Trip, we stayed at the Hood River Grange hall and Camp Kiwanilong in Astoria. We all stayed at the Grange hall for the first two days and Camp Kiwanilong for another two days. Both were enormous!

The Grange Hall had a lot of history. It was established in 1913 and was made in 1921. The Grange Hall can do a lot of things, like dances, crop talk, plant sale, seed share, farm film festival, fill your pantry market, country living classes, emergency preparedness, and community BBQ's/ socials. They still do this to this day! You can also rent the Grange, like we did.

[Continued on p. 4](#)

## Wild Ride

By Everett, Grade 6

It was a cloudy day and the class four rapid above where we were going to put in was roaring from the extra snowmelt. The water was freezing at forty degrees fahrenheit. Our guides put the rafts in the river. Then we all piled into our rafts and one by one all the rafts took off downstream.

This End of the Year trip we went on a rafting trip down the White Salmon river with the Wet Planet raft company. Before we took off down the river we had to stop by the Wet Planet headquarters to get the gear on, meet our guides and prepare the rafts for our trip. Our guides' names were Durham, Thomas and Cass. That day was very cold so we had to put on lots of layers. We put on wetsuits then dry suit jackets then rain jackets, life jackets and helmets and got a brief safety lecture. We then hiked down a hill to the river through the thick Washington forest.

All the students had so much fun on the trip so some got interviewed about their experience. Brennan gave the raft trip four stars. He liked the first half when there were rapids but did not like the second half when it started to rain and there weren't a lot of rapids. Arlo also had a great time. He liked the huge rapids where we put in but did not like waiting for the bus to take us back to Wet Planet headquarters while it was raining. But Arlo still gave the trip a perfect five stars.

The White Salmon river is fed by snowmelt off of Mt. Adams. Some of the canyons that it meanders through are ancient collapsed lava tubes from the volcanic cascade mountains. The White Salmon used to be dammed up by condit dam but it was taken down. At the time this was the world's largest dam removal project. The White Salmon is one of the most popular raft locations in the world. The most famous rapid is Husum falls which is a 12 foot drop. Sadly we had to skip the falls because the water was running too high. But there were other rapids that we could go on the biggest ones being rattlesnake, granny snatcher and stair step. Everyone had a lot of fun rafting and would definitely do it again.





## Crazy Cliffside Museum

Continued from p. 3

We all got clipboards with pictures and questions that we had to answer so we got into groups with a chaperone and got to searching. It was fun to see all the cool old stuff and we even saw a big wooly mammoth replica.

Once we all finished the indoor scavenger hunt we went outside and made maps and then gave them to a partner to find things we hid. Once everyone found the treasures we went inside and finished up. Then we got back on the bus for our week-long journey and our next stop was the spit in Hood River that we all played at.

Overall we had a really good time at the different places on our trip and most people enjoyed it. We had really nice guides and they made the trip a lot more fun doing things and we also learned a lot of new things on our adventure.

## Grange Hall and Camp Kiwanilong

Continued from p. 3

The second camp we stayed at was Camp Kiwanilong. This camp had six cabins total and one big lodge where we ate. All the girls stayed in one cabin. The boys were in another cabin. There was also a giant field with gaga ball, volleyball net, and a campfire. There was so much stuff to do. The camp had a whole shed of fun activities, like hula hoops.

There are some positives and negatives for these two places. Starting off with the positives for Camp Kiwanilong, Georgia says, "I loved this Camp because we had the whole Camp to ourselves at the time!" Now for the Grange Hall, we have Roxanna with a positive. "I want to come here again because we could play hide and seek all over the Grange." Now to the negatives. Starting off with Camp Kiwanilong, there were a lot of mosquitoes especially around the campfire. The Grange only has one negative, which is one tiny bathroom for 7 girls including my mom, Rachel. Same for the boys, only one tiny bathroom for 9 boys. Including the chaperones.

We had so much fun staying there. Both of the places were huge!!! Thank you PTO for renting these two places. THANK YOU!!!

## Bond Update

- ✓ **April 2024:** Subcontractors bid on project
- ✓ **May 2024:** Subcontractors chosen and BBSD Board approves construction costs.
- ✓ **June 2024:** Staff packs up the school while students attend field trips. Work site preparation with solarium removal, safety fencing, vehicle access road and material staging. Construction begins on June 17th with asbestos abatement.



**June 14, 2024** Groundbreaking Ceremony: Join students and staff on the last day of school to kick off construction! 11am-12pm

**For more details and regular updates:**

[www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/facilities/bond-updates](http://www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/facilities/bond-updates)

## 2024 Jog-a-Thon Success!

A message from the PTO

THANK YOU to all who pledged donations for the Run Yer Butte Off Jog-a-Thon! The students had a blast while they raised funds for Spring 2025 trips. We surpassed our fundraising goal, with thanks to our generous donors. A special shout out to these local businesses:

Lake Creek Lodge  
Sisters Dental  
House on Metolius  
Base Camp Home  
Inspections

Camp Sherman Store  
Starshine  
Hola  
Les Schwab Tires  
Sisters Dance Academy

See this blog post for the full report with lots of photos!  
[www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/2024-jog-a-thon-recap](http://www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/2024-jog-a-thon-recap)

