

# Valley View Voice

Valley View Retirement Village • Rock of Ages Mennonite Home • M.A.I.D.S. • McMinnville, Oregon • Spring 2019

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## Valley View Voice

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## Mont and Kathy Rock

By Victoria Wilbanks

Mont was born in Culver City, California in 1943, but soon his family moved to the Spokane area. He was the first of 6 children—four boys and then two girls. His parents purchased an unimproved piece of property to farm, and their first house had just two rooms. The boys slept outside in the wood shed which tested their strength and endurance in the frigid winters. Mont recalls carrying two-quart canning jars of hot water out to the woodshed to warm the bed he shared with one of his brothers. When times improved, his father built a four-bedroom, two-bath, centrally heated house for the family. After graduation from high school, Mont received a Congressional appointment to the US Merchant Marine Academy but was unable to pass the eye exam, so he enrolled in Washington State University in Pullman and graduated with a degree in chemistry. Mont met Kathy at WSU. She was born and raised in Longview, WA and graduated from WSU with a degree in business. Kathy remembers her growing-up years in Longview as being idyllic, surrounded by a loving family, including many extended family members. Her grandparents lived in Kalama on the Columbia River which provided salmon that were enjoyed at many family dinners. After graduation from college, Mont and Kathy married and began their careers. Mont became a chemical engineer at Longview Fiber, and Kathy worked in an office. They both enjoyed these early years and purchased a sail boat which they sailed on the Columbia River out of Rainer, OR with a group of other sailboat enthusiasts. After three years they moved to Portland where Mont attended Portland State University and earned a teaching degree. Kathy worked in a state program aimed at treating hard core heroin addicts. Kathy learned so much, really had her eyes opened and came away a much less naive young woman! After graduating from PSU, Mont began teaching chemistry at McNary High School in Keizer. During his 30 years at McNary, he also taught physics and math and volunteered to coach many extracurricular sports which were not funded by the school district at that time. He also took students on cross country ski jaunts and climbing trips to the summit of Mount Hood.



(Rock continued pg 3)

## From Delvin's Desk



Astronaut Carl Walz, who along with Dan Busch, broke the record for spending time in space. Their time in space was 196

days. Astronaut Walz said: *The best way to fail is to not follow procedures.* And then added: *The best way to fail is to always follow procedures.* What did he mean? A man who depended heavily on a space ship to get him back home to his wife and two children had to know enough about the equipment that would get him safely home.

For those who don't remember, Astronaut Walz performed 11 hours of space walking in 2002 to install a new stable arm that was malfunctioning, a very technical process that very few could accomplish. And waiting for a new arm to be delivered must have contributed to his stress level.

Relating that to the many staff members who work at Rock of Ages and the MAIDS, there is a reason why our staff perform their work well—their commitment to getting our residents home safely. Whether working with a memory care resident, a complicated care issue with a client, establishing a Health Clinic and meeting patients needs, or maintaining our amazing campus—it all takes procedural protocols. I'm impressed with our committed department leaders and staff who go beyond procedure and step out of their comfort zone (their space ship) to perform technical, compassionate services above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you each staff member for the amazing work that few perform like you do!

## Chaplain's Corner



Well, it's almost a done deal! We, The Mark Nissley family, have relocated to Sheridan, OR! We moved to a house on Blair Street which we are renting, then purchasing, Lord willing. I am continuing as *Chaplain Mark* employed by Rock of Ages/Valley View. It's hard to believe that this is our 8th year here. We, Ruth, Trevor and I, have been wonderfully blessed to make so many friends! We have had so many wonderful times. and are expecting many more! This ministry is rewarding and, yes, at times exhausting, but as the saying goes *It's killing me, BUT I love the way I'm dying.*

There will be some adjustments with not living on campus, but we are excited about what God is providing for the continuing ministry here at the Rock of Ages. I am especially grateful for the addition of a Voluntary Service Program (VS) for the youth under the direction of the BMA Conference where young people with a love for the elderly and a love for God can serve on a voluntary basis and learn life skills as they serve. There are many details to be worked out, and we likely will face challenges; but, I'm hoping and believing this will be a real blessing

for us. I am excited about the many possibilities this VS Program will create for youth to serve the LORD through ministering at this small but awesome retirement facility and the surrounding community. In America, our elderly population is growing and therefore the mission possibilities with elderly are many.

This VS Program is new so please join in praying that it will be a success for the glory of God and for the good of all involved.

So yes, The Mark Nissley Family has moved. Now I need to get back to work unpacking. You are invited to come visit us in Sheridan and I, of course, plan to see all you residents here at the Rock as usual!

Residents, Staff and Leadership, Thank you again for your outpouring of love to us. We treasure your friendship!

Allow me to share a Bible verse which is encouraging to me: *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yea, the deep things of God.* (1 Corinthians 2:9, 10)

## Honoring our Employees

### Employees of the Month



**Jessie Granger** was named Employee of the Month for December. Jessie has worked in the MAIDS In-Home Care program since April 2015



**Robert Atkinson** was named Employee of the Month for January. Robert has been the Maintenance Supervisor since July, 2018.



**Roberta Ashlock** was named Employee of the Month for February. Roberta has been with the MAIDS In-Home Care Department since August, 2018. She is also the mother of Bethany who also works in the MAIDS program.

## The Lighter Side

When was baseball first mentioned in the Bible? In the Big Inning when Eve stole first, Adam stole second and the prodigal son came home.

*From the Cloverdale Farms reader board:*

- As for butter vs. margarine, I trust cows more than chemists.
- It is much more impressive for other people to discover your good qualities without your help!

(Rock continued from pg one)

After the couple settled in Keizer, Kathy began a career in the Capitol, working for the Oregon legislature as a legislative aide. She supported a number of state senators from eastern Oregon who came and went during her time at the legislature.

Mont and Kathy joined the *Chemeketans*, a large outdoor club in Salem. Mont enjoyed climbing with this group, and he conquered many NW peaks, such as the Grand Tetons, and also mountains in the Canadian Rockies. The skills he learned were used when he volunteered in outdoor programs with students. Kathy preferred to hike, and they both had many adventures both in Oregon and other states. The couple also had their son during these years. They are very proud of his musical talents. He is involved with the technical part of the music industry, setting up lighting, soundboards, etc. for large concerts and other events. In addition, he plays many instruments and is one of the lucky ones who has found his niche in life and loves what he does.

Upon retirement, Mont and Kathy lost no time in traveling as much as they could and can tell tales ranging from tropical islands and sail boating on Turkey's turquoise coast to a trip to Gettysburg last fall. They also purchased some property in the Yamhill/Carlton area where they enjoyed years of leisure and hobbies. Mont is a talented woodworker, and Kathy continues to sing with a jazz choir.

Several years ago Mont took the courageous step of having Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) surgery which successfully addressed some of his Parkinson's symptoms. The couple continues to adjust to the progressive nature of Parkinson's and are helped along the way by their little white dog, Summer, a very cute Westie with big round brown eyes. Summer seems to understand that she is quite the special certified therapy dog!

Mont and Kathy moved to Rock of Ages last September and feel very grateful to have found a new home and wonderful neighbors on the campus.

Do you know who is the shortest man in the Bible? Was it Bildad the Shoehight, Knee High Miah, or perhaps Peter, who slept on his watch. I guess we will never know

Bible Mennonite Fellowship, Inc. dba

# Rock of Ages

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## Valley View Wildlife



This is a **Northwestern Salamander** (*Ambystoma gracile*) which is one of the 19 species of salamanders found in Oregon. I found this guy here on our campus. Salamanders are amphibians like frogs and similarly lay their eggs in water. This species is one of the more common ones found in Western Oregon; however, you don't see them much most of the year because they live in marshy or damp forest areas except when they are migrating to their breeding ponds. Many species of salamanders like this have large parotid glands that are very characteristic of each species. This species is found in the Western parts of the Northwestern U.S. from Alaska down into California. These creatures are quite different from the **Rough Skinned Newt** (*Taricha granulosa*) that lives in our pond and creek.

## Village Life

### RESIDENT'S COUNCIL IS NOW ACTIVE

The new Resident's Council has had its first organizational meeting. The members of the Council appointed by the administration and their terms of service are: Mary Jurhs (3 yrs), Eunice Cramer (3), Bruce Hamilton (3), Mitch Mason (2), Gordon Martin (2), Vernell Williams (1) and Gary Binder (1).

Gary Binder was appointed as the liaison person who will report to the Administration, informing them about what the Council discusses. Mary Jurhs was elected by the members as the secretary and Gordon Martin was elected as chairman.

It was decided to meet in a lunch meeting on the first Wednesday of each month.

The minutes of each meeting will be posted on the bulletin boards in the Activity Building and the dining room in the Lodge.

If anyone has an item for the Council to discuss, please talk to one of the Council members.