

# Tender Care Village



# The Village News

Issue 11

April 1, 2019

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## TRACI'S MESSAGE

I begin my message with a saddened heart, early last month we lost a very kind man, my father-in-law, McKinley Wells. For those of you who didn't have the chance to meet this hardworking, fun-loving man, whose bright blue eyes and smile brought joy to those who knew him, he will be truly missed. I am so grateful Bob and I had the opportunity to move back to the Tri Cities 3 years ago, it allowed us to spend precious time with Mac. Renee, his daughter, has shared an article about her dad in this month's newsletter, I encourage you all to read it and learn just how great this man was to all he touched.

As we heal and start to look forward Tender Care Village will be celebrating it's 1-year anniversary this May. We are in the process of planning a social event for all in our Tender Care Community to gather and celebrate!!! This past year we have continued to grow and have had the opportunity to

meet so many wonderful folks, both members and volunteers. I can personally say volunteering for Tender Care Village has been the most rewarding experience of my life.



I've seen some great friendships developing between volunteers and members and between our members, I encourage all to attend our monthly socials and exercise groups, it's a great

way to get to know one another. We would like to hear your ideas for our monthly gatherings, some suggestions have been; book club, painting, movies and game days. If you would like to participate in any of these events let me know and we will get it set up. I would like our community to be more than just transportation and small home projects, I see us developing into an organization that meets

our members social needs as well as their practical needs. Check out the monthly calendar for April's gathering and think about joining our strolls with Susan starting Monday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am. I am excited to see what we can accomplish in our 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Thanks to all of you who have made Tender Care Village what it is today.

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### Foreword (by Pat Wells)

My mother wrote the following poem years ago. She was the mother of six children and at first she cooked on a wood stove and washed clothes on a wash board and kept food in an icebox. It was nothing that the women before her hadn't done and her life became better with wringer washing machine and eventually an electric range and refrigerator.

LIFE  
by  
Avis B. Ransier

Math & mumps & pregnant humps  
are part of life's undoing.  
Babes that cry & must be dry  
are tasks that I'm eschewing.

The rondalay from day to day  
is our life's do or die.  
Making beds and combing heads  
to making apple pie.

Balls and squalls, bills & pills  
all have their place in life.  
No matter what we have to do  
it all amounts to strife.

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## Your Local Libraries

Don't forget your local libraries are a valuable resource for books (also large print), movies and magazines. With your library card you can check out materials by visiting in person, reserving on line and picking up later, or downloading e-books, e-movies or music. Librarians can help you open or renew your library card and find specific books or resources. Do you love reading the newest books? Many new books are available or just a short wait away. Visit in person or go on-line to find great entertainment and information.

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## In Memoriam

McKinley (Mac) Smith Wells, 82, husband of Tender Care Village founding member Patricia Wells, passed away on March 7, 2019 at his home after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was born in Yuba City, California to Mary and Oscar Wells. His father Oscar passed away when Mac was a young boy. Within several years of his father's passing, Mac, his brother Chester, and mother Mary, relocated to Nampa, ID. It was there that Mac found a love for sports. He graduated from College High School where he lettered in track, baseball, football, and basketball. His passion for sports stayed with him his whole life, whether he was playing softball at a company picnic, throwing the ball in the yard, or watching it on TV. It wasn't unusual to find him watching multiple games on multiple channels, flipping between them and a Nascar race...all at the same time, all while listening to a Mariner's game on the radio. Many weekends were spent in West Richland watching stock car racing at the race track.



Mac was a hard worker and spent most of his career working in the auto industry, most notably for Central Ford, Jerry Horrobin Ford, and Russ Dean Ford, where he retired after nearly 40 years as Parts Manager. If anyone had a question about a part, Mac was who they went to. Not only could he tell you if he carried it or could get it, he

could tell you the stock number off the top of his head. Everyone respected him and everybody loved him. He would meet up for lunch with coworkers at Andy's Diner and everyone would recognize him (MAC they would yell), even long after retirement.

Aside from sports and family, Mac's biggest love was cars. He used to drag race cars, he worked around cars, he collected old ones, and he met some great friends through the Kaiser/Fraser Owners International Club car meets and Street Rod car shows he traveled to with Pat. His pride and joy was his 1952 Henry J Vagabond, his Blue J. (He used to get teased by his daughter Renee because he carried pictures of the Blue J instead of his children!) He custom restored the Blue J to a comfortable, fast, eye-catching, and award-winning beauty. He probably won an award for every car meet he attended, and that's not an exaggeration. The family room is filled with trophies, and plaques cover the wall. After retirement Mac and Pat were able to spend more time traveling, with the KFOCI car meets taking them across the country.

Mac married his loving wife Patricia in 1957 and together they raised children Robert, Lori, and Renee. Family was so important to him and Christmas was his favorite time of year. As the family grew and grandchildren came along, we could always count on the Christmas morning phone call from him wondering where we were, and when we would get there so he could open presents. Family gatherings at the house bolstered him as he weathered the course of his disease. They provided a strength and encouragement that brought him comfort. The loving care provided by his amazing wife Pat enabled Mac to stay at home until his passing, fulfilling the desire they each had to stay at home. The vision they are with other Tender Care Village founders has come full circle. He was able to do it the way he wanted.



Mac was preceded in death by his mother Mary Augusta Smith Wells, father Oscar Virgil Wells; grandparents Willis E. Smith and Harriet McGee Smith. He is survived by his wife Patricia, brother Chester Virgil Wells; children Bob (Traci) Wells, Lori (Ken) Schmidt, Renee (Scott) Claver; grandchildren Kenny and Kathy Schmidt, Megan and Drew Wells, Tyler and Nicole Claver; great-grandchildren Chloe, Ainsley, Dominic, and Cierra Schmidt.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**The Hunny-Du Crew** (Dale and Lori Jones) - (509) 948-0490, 20% off cleaning or handyman services for Tender Care Village Members

**The Magical Touch** (Cindy Mendoza) – (509) 572-5113, willing to give Tender Care Village Members a reasonable rate on all services

**CleanWorks Window Cleaning** (Mike Moore)- (509) 737-1971, willing to give Tender Care Village Members a discount on services

April						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Training- 12:30- 2:30 pm	Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am	Social- 1-3 pm	Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am		
28	29	30				
	Strolls with Susan, starting May 6 <sup>th</sup> , 10 am	Exercise/Kadlec HealthPlex 9am-10am				

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