NEWS BRIEFS

Alpaca tourism takes **'Top 100'**

Alpacas, those longnecked mammals resembling small llamas, won an Oregon tourism award in a Portland publishing company's business contest last week.

The Alpacas at Marquam Hill Ranch in Molalla and their owners, Bill and Jennifer Cameron, won the No. 1 spot in the fourth annual 100 Best Fan-Favorite Destinations in Oregon.

MEDIAmerica, publisher of "Oregon Business" magazine, selected the married couple's business, part of Silverton Chamber of Commerce, after scrutinizing 95.000 online reviews on Google, Trip Advisor and Yelp. Staff tallied travelers' overall satisfaction and used these scores to create the 100-winner list, according to a news release.

With the other winners, Alpacas at Marquam Hill will receive statewide promotion from the publishing company in 2020.

Others in the top 10 were Douglas County Museum in Roseburg, Tu Tu' Tun Lodge in Gold Beach, Abbey Road Farm in Carlton, Remote Outpost RV and Cabins in Remote, High Life Adventures in Warrenton, Rogue Valley ZipLine Adventure in Central Point, FivePine Lodge in Sisters, Powerland Heritage Park in Brooks, and Cascades Raptor Center in Eugene.

Holiday shopping hours at Alpacas at Marquam Hill Ranch are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Christmas Day. Activities include selfies with an alpaca and an activity table set up with fiber ornament making. The ranch features more than 80 alpacas, raised for their wool-like fiber, used

Lunaria Gallery lights up January

for textiles.

In January, Lunaria Gallery will feature an exhibition "Home is Where the Heart is" in its larger downstairs area and "Inner Child" in the smaller loft upstairs. Customers can also meet the artists during Silverton's First Friday celebration on Jan. 3, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The gallery, located at 113 N. Water St., is open daily, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Appeal Tribune

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Obituaries

Donna Louise Douglass

SILVERTON - Donna Louise Douglass, born March 9, 1932 in Storm Lake, Iowa, to Russell Thomas and Olive Beatrice Mark. Donna went home to be with her Lord on December 12, 2019. Donna lived for many years in California, where she and her late husband, Rex Reid Douglass owned



and operated Tiffany's Hallmark Store in Lake Elsinore, CA. She enjoyed serving in Lioness, PEO, Women's Club and loved her Church, Canyon Lake Community Church in Canyon Lake, CA.. When Donna retired, she moved to Silverton, OR., to be near her children. She became a member of the First Baptist Church in Silverton. She loved her six children, Merrilee Wahl, Salt Lake City, UT., Toni Weil, Castle Pines, CO., Craig (Lisa) Douglass, Phoenix, AZ., Kim (Steve) McClure, Silverton, OR., Danakae Bonahoom, Redondo Beach, CA., and Dale (Kim) Dennis, Lake Havasu, AZ., 16 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren. Most of all, in her later years, she loved her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She was looking forward to being with Him and to re-uniting with all those who had gone on before her. She will be missed as a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Family services to be held, and she will be placed at Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside, CA., with her husband, Rex Douglass. Arrangements are with Unger Funeral Chapel - Silverton. The family wants to thank Salem Oncology staff for all their tender loving care during their mothers last days. She is dancing in heaven with Jesus- no walker!

NORPAC

Continued from Page 1A

Deal hinges on Quincy sale

NORPAC filed for bankruptcy protection in August, citing \$165 million in debt to at least 5,000 creditors. It had a deal in place to sell the majority of assets to Oregon Potato Company for \$155 million.

But Oregon Potato Company withdrew its offer in October and in November submitted a reduced offer to purchase only NORPAC's Quincy, Wash., facility and the goods it held for \$93.5 million.

It seemed the Willamette Valley processing facilities could close for good in January if a buyer didn't materialize.

But on the day of the Dec. 9 deadline for competing offers, Idaho-Simplot Frozen based Vegetables submitted a bid. The price on the Washington plant rose as the companies went back and forth with rival bids.

After two days, judge Peter McKittrick approved the Quincy sale to Oregon Potato Company



Layoffs were announced this week at two facilities operated by NORPAC Foods including the packing plant in Salem. DAVID DAVIS / STATESMAN JOURNAL

no other facilities in Ore-

have been able to close a proposed purchase until Dec. 27, Simplot attorney Douglas Pahl said, and Kennedy said that extra week would have cost between \$1.5 million and \$2 million.

The plan to reopen

Salem and Brooks

Lineage Logistics is a

company

was

cold storage warehouse

company based in Michi-

gan.

The

gon, but already lists on its website that it operates NORPAC's cold storage facilities in Salem and Brooks. Part of the deal Kenne-

dy laid out in court is if **Oregon Potato Company** purchases the Quincy facility, Lineage will purchase the Salem, Brooks and Stayton facilities along with some associated farmland near the Brooks and Stayton plants - for \$49 million and lease the facilities to Oregon Potato Company. Once the Quincy sale is completed, VanLeuven said, Oregon Potato Company will lease the Salem and Brooks plants from NORPAC while a sale is consummated and reemploy some workers who have already been terminated.

Stayton future uncertain

Under the proposed sale, the fate of NORPAC's original Stayton facility is still unknown.

Since NORPAC announced in August it was closing that plant, locals held out hope something would come along to save the cities' largest private employer.

Though two closing days have come and gone, a skeleton crew still

Donna Krug Ramseyer Liechty

SILVERTON - Donna, age 96 died December 13 in Silverton Oregon. She was born to Elsie and Alvin Krug on May 6, 1923 on the Krug family farm on Silverton Rd, just as her father was. She graduated from Silverton Union High School in 1941. Donna married David "Bud" Ramseyer



on March 19, 1944 and had four children: Kathie Ramseyer Haddon (Richard), Richard "Dick" Ramseyer (Linda), Robert "Bob" Ramseyer (Karen), Kay Ramseyer Jury (Ken). Bud passed away in April 1973. She married Howard B Liechty, Bud's childhood friend, on December 29, 1979 and welcomed Marsha Liechty Whetham (Dean) to her family. She has 16 grandchildren, 21 great grand children, and 2 great, great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her brother (Dale Krug) and both of her husbands. She grew up in the Silverton area and raised her children in the Pratum area. She spent 2 years in Anchorage, Alaska, while Bud worked a construction job and 8 years in Manhattan Beach, California after marrying Howard. They returned to Silverton in the mid '80's.

Donna graduated from Phagans Beauty School with both a Beautician and Instructors License and owned her own Beauty Shop at her home. She was a lifetime member of the Methodist Church, attending both the Silverton and Pratum Churches and enjoyed roles in many areas of ministry. She was involved in many service organizations but her heart was always with the Silverton Hospital Auxiliary where she was a chapter and a State President with nearly 7,000 volunteer hours.

A viewing will be held Friday December 27, 2019 from 5-8 pm at Unger Funeral Chapel in Silverton, Oregon. Private interment will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Memorial Service will be at Silverton Methodist Church December 28 at 2:00 pm, reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Silverton Hospital Auxuillary. Arrangements are by Unger Funeral Chapel. Visit www.ungerfuneralchapel.com for condolences and guest book.

for approximately \$107 million on Dec. 11.

"The bankruptcy process has worked in this case given the fact that we are now \$13.5 million higher in the purchase price than we were when this process started," McKittrick said.

If Oregon Potato Company's deal isn't completed by Dec. 20, the sale price will go up \$200,000 per day. If it is not completed by Jan. 15, Simplot will be able to purchase the Washington plant.

Simplot would not

launched in 2012 when Bay Grove Capital acquired a cold storage company and has rapidly expanded to become one of the largest refrigerated warehousing companies in the world.

It lists 169 cold storage warehouses in the United States - including locations in Washington cities Woodland, Kent and and in Kennewick countries such as China, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, Belgium and The Netherlands.

Lineage Logistics has

CROWN

Kennedy said Simplot had a similar intention regarding the Brooks and Salem plants, but wasn't able to make the commitment as soon as Oregon Potato Company could.

works there. "I'm like everyone else,

hoping for something and anticipating something will happen," Stayton Mayor Hank Porter said.

Generations of people in Stayton have had some association with NOR-PAC.

When Porter and wife, Sandy, moved to Stayton in 1968 to teach, there was a call for bean pickers at what was then Stayton Canning Company.

They both signed up for the arduous task that had to be done by hand.

"We picked beans all day, all day, both of us. We made \$6," Porter said. "We said, 'That's it for bean picking."

Still, two of their three children had their first jobs at NORPAC and made their first steps toward independence.

The closure of NOR-PAC's Stayton plant impacts more than the 485 who were employed at that facility - either fulltime or seasonal.

The closure will impact the city of 8,245 and the farming community that surrounds it in ways people haven't figured out yet.

"I think there's trickle down all through the community," said Brent Stevenson, District Manager for the Santiam Water Control District. "A lot of us, myself included, aren't sure about the bankruptcy process and how it moves forward."

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