



Sports

From 1A to D-1

Inside
Aid for farmers stung by trade war has helped few

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Good day to our valued subscriber Scott Findholt of Cove

Prepare for weather changes

■ Wind, rain, ice, snow and fog predicted for Thanksgiving holiday

Observer staff

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Transportation is advising of weather pattern changes that will likely bring wind, rain, ice, snow and fog to various areas of Eastern Oregon, which could result in driving challenges for the busy holiday weekend.

Motorists are reminded to pay close attention to weather and road conditions. Visit www.weather.gov/pendleton for the latest weather forecasts, watches, warnings and advisories.

For current road condition information that includes snow zone warnings, traffic delays, highway cameras and more, go to www.Trip-Check.com.

“Thanksgiving weekend is one of the busiest times for travel,” said ODOT District 13 Manager Ace Clark. “We will have crews on the highways day and night plowing snow, applying sand, salt and deicer as appropriate, and monitoring conditions. Please plan extra travel time, be prepared for winter weather and drive according to conditions of the road. We want everyone to get to their destination safely.”

According to an ODOT press release, high pressure that has brought the dry weather with areas of fog the past week is weakening and will allow a frontal system to approach the area Wednesday night and Thanksgiving.

The first in a series of Pacific fronts will arrive Wednesday night and Thanksgiving. There will be rain and mountain snow (snow levels around 3,500-4,500 feet), but also a slight potential for freezing rain early Thanksgiving morning in the low elevations where trapped cold air will be difficult to scour out. Snow levels will decrease Thursday night and Friday with a stronger frontal system that will bring rain and snow (snow levels around 3,000-4,000 feet) and also gusty winds.

The Observer will be closed Thursday

The Observer will close early today and will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will resume our regular hours on Friday.



ANGELS IN THE COMMUNITY

Volunteers make weekly Union senior meal possible

By Cherise Kaechele
The Observer

The United Methodist Church in Union was busy with activity Tuesday morning. With the smells of a traditional Thanksgiving meal wafting through the air, volunteers organized the food, set the table and prepared for this week's senior meal.

One volunteer, Gracie Tarter, 85, said she is continuing her mother's legacy.

“My mother had a restaurant in La Grande in 1974. She sold the restaurant and got involved with the senior meals (in La Grande),” Tarter said. “My mom and a friend, Ruth Mitchell,

started the one in Union in
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Cherise Kaechele/The Observer

From left, Mary Dodds, Joy Ann Smith and Linda McReynolds help prepare the meal on Tuesday at the United Methodist Church in Union.



Cherise Kaechele/The Observer

Volunteer Brandi Fox helps to set the tables for the Union senior meal. The meals are offered every Tuesday with a small donation encouraged. Everyone is welcome.

USFS squares off against GHCC

By Katy Nesbitt
For The Observer

PENDLETON — The U.S. Forest Service and Greater Hells Canyon Council squared off over cattle grazing in Hells Canyon on Nov. 13 in Pendleton's U.S. District Court.

Judge Patricia Sullivan heard oral arguments regarding a complaint the council filed in January claiming the Forest Service violated federal laws when it developed the Lower Imnaha Range Analysis, endangering the threatened wildflower Spalding's catchfly.

Jennifer Schwartz, representing the GHCC, said cattle grazing is the No. 1 threat to catchfly recovery. Cattle can trample plants, erode surrounding soil, especially on steep, muddy slopes. Grazing also spreads noxious weeds that outcompete catchfly for habitat and threaten its primary pollinator, the bumblebee.

“Most of the damage is
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Promoting literacy at LMS

By Dick Mason
The Observer

La Grande Middle School students may be returning to their campus during Thanksgiving vacation to take advantage of a new library that never sleeps.

The students will be visiting LMS's Little Free Library, located outside next to the school's southeast entrance. Installed under the direction of the Mountain Valleys Reading Council, it is part of a growing national network of Little Free Libraries, where anyone can pick up a book and bring back another to share.

The Little Free Library at La Grande Middle School, which opened Tuesday and never closes, is about the size of two large dollhouses and was constructed by LMS art and woods teacher Rich McIlmoil. It is filled with books for teenagers, including works by legendary authors C.S. Lewis, Charles Dickens and Arthur C. Clarke.

“It will provide a great opportunity for students to get books at any time,” said Ali Krestschmer, an LMS teacher.

Students excited about the library include eighth-grader Michael Hansen, who enjoys reading science
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WEATHER Full forecast on the back of B section

Tonight 37 Low
A few showers

Thursday 50/35
Spotty showers

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Call The Observer newsroom at 541-963-3161 or send an email to news@lagrandeobserver.com. More contact info on Page 4A.



FRIDAY

WARMING STATION REOPENS IN NEW LOCATION

Online at lagrandeobserver.com

