



Sumpter News

Nancy Myers

With the weather turning mild again and the members of the Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club having officially closed their snowmobiling season, it feels like time to really dig into the garden. The little patch of flowering bulbs on the corner of Lorraine Wells' property is looking good as is the bright line of daffodils along the base of Shirley and Jaimie Bender's house. Due to the occasional storms along the Elkhorn range, the mountain tops have maintained their mantle of white and Phillips Lake storage is up to about 32,000 acre feet with the discharge from Mason dam increased to 42 cfs.

Sumpter Valley Railroad Receives Oregon Heritage Tourism Award

Congratulations to Sumpter Valley Railroad which was honored at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Eugene by being selected for an Oregon Heritage Tourism Award. Leland Myers, Nils Christensen, Ron Brinton, Linda and J.D. Lethlean, Bob Church, Joe Hayes and Pug Robinson, founded the Sumpter Valley Railroad Restoration. Many, many dedicated volunteers continue to make this wonderful historical attraction thrive.

The restored Stump Dodger was dedicated on America's bicentennial, July 4, 1976.

Calendar

April 16 - Bag Ladies at Schoolhouse Community Center, noon to 7 p.m.
Planning Commission at City Hall, 7 p.m.
April 21 - PRRFPD, 6:30 p.m., Mosquito Flat Station
Sumpter Vol FD at fire hall, 7 p.m.
April 28 - City Council at City Hall, 7 p.m.
Alpine Chapter, OES, at Masonic Hall, 8 p.m.
April 29 - Music in the Meadow committee meeting at Sumpter Museum/Library, 2 p.m.
May 4 - Masons at Masonic Hall, 8 p.m.
May 5 - SVFD Auxiliary meeting at the Old Schoolhouse, 10 am. 6:30 p.m., Mosquito Flat Station
Sumpter Vol FD at fire hall, 7 pm
May 8 - Bingo at Schoolhouse Community Center, 7 p.m.

Auxiliary Meeting

Sumpter Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary met April 7. Among the items accomplished were setting up chairpersons for upcoming bake sales and other events. Mayor Findley had left a request for the Auxiliary to consider paying for a grant specialist company to look for funding for a new fire hall/community center. The Auxiliary felt the timing currently isn't right.

SVRR

Sumpter Valley Railroad Restoration, Inc., held its monthly board meeting April 11. In addition to department head reports, there was work on budgeting and committee policies.

The brochures for 2015 will be available soon and schedules are also available on the website (www.sumptervalleyrailroad.org). Before long, we'll hear the steam whistle echoing through the valley. Next month, the railroad's volun-

teers will be hustling—for the safety/training weekend, school tours and the opening of the general operating season.

SVFD Auxiliary Bingo

Last Friday evening 14 people gathered at the Old Schoolhouse community center and enjoyed several rounds of Bingo. No one won the jackpot which will be \$267 next time—Friday, May 8, at 7 p.m.

Churches

Sunday morning services are held at St. Brigid's in the Pines on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. followed by a coffee 'hour.' The April 19 service will be led by Rev. Aletha Bonebrake.

Weekly services at McEwen Bible Fellowship include Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and Morning Worship at 11 a.m. Wednesday evening prayer at 6:45 p.m. currently is being hosted at the home of Joy Myers.

Parting

Late in January in Salem, at the annual conference of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon, Leland Myers was elected Chair-Elect of the organization for this year and to serve the organization next year as the top officer. With the position comes the responsibility to travel—visit the several chapters within the state and attend conferences of neighboring state surveying associations. As his wife, your reporter plans to accompany him and enjoy the change of pace. So, I'm setting aside the old Thesaurus and retiring as a correspondent for the *Record-Courier*. It has been a great 30 plus years, but I'll be leaving the note pad and pencil home from now on. Thank you, readers, for your support. *Nancy Myers*

Editor's Note: We sincerely thank Nancy for her dedication and service to this column for so many years. We wish you the very best! If anyone is interested in writing for the greater Sumpter area or if you have news to share, please contact the office at 541-856-3615 or email news@theronline.com.



Submitted photo

Notice our kids amongst the choir. Those participating were: Shelby Baker, Monica Barajas, Rachel Berg, Cheyenne Boyer, Samuel Carille, Taelynn Hillman, Estefania Ochoa, Lindsey Slatler, Justin Smith, Emily Vowell, Ariana Weston, Rebekah Weston, and Kendra Sink. They were directed by Matt Carlson and R. Lee Friese. Wonderful concert.

North Powder News

Linda Dixon
541-709-1045
mogirl65@gmail.com



Rain drops keep falling on my head. Hooray! Just got the potatoes in the ground and strawberries planted and it poured. Things are green, tulips and daffodils blooming and it is hailing. Ha. Never know what Eastern Oregon weather is going to be doing.

Concert a Treat

Even with the rain and wind, we had a pretty good turn out for the Inland Northwest Chorale Concert. If you missed it you missed a real treat. The North Powder Junior Choir sang with the group and what an experience. The kids said it was awesome to sing with them as their voices were so strong. The group comes for free and are very professional. Most are from Hermiston, Pendleton, Elgin, La-Grande, and all over the area. They gather to practice in Pendleton and go to a Chorale camp in Aug. Yes a Chorale camp. Several in the group are husband and wife.

The concert is sponsored by Leo Adler Community Fund, donations and fund raisers. A reception followed the concert. Refreshments were served by Leslie Bingham. Thank you Mr. Carlsen for bringing them to our community. Music is the voice to the soul. We hope they come back soon.

The Inland Northwest Chorale will have a dinner auction at the Wildhorse Resort on May 8. Silent auction begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:15 p.m. and the oral auction begins at 8 p.m. Price is \$30 per person and includes dinner, and opportunity to attend the silent auction. The oral auction is open to the public. RSVP by May 1. For information call 541-561-2453, or email inwm@machmedia.net

Library News

Ten little ones came to the story hour this week. We are able to go outside for activities. We had a treat of chocolate chip cookies furnished by Teresa Weems. Thanks to Dotty, Nancy, Eric and Teresa for helping this week. Don't forget the story hour is 11:30 am.

We are starting to plan for our city wide yard sale. Details to follow.

The bike rack is done and hopefully be in place this week. Thank you to Cindy Martin for donating the old items from the past businesses in North Powder. They will be displayed on the wall. Thank you.

Methodist Church

The Sunday school class taught by Jill Pedro put on their Easter puppet show today at church. It was

really cute and the kids did so well. Thank you Jill for all you do with the kids.

Bountiful harvest is Thursdays at 2 pm. at the Grange. Silver tea will be April 30 details to follow.

New Power Poles

I am looking out my window at the OTEC trucks lining up new poles and getting ready to switch out the old ones. Never fails in North Powder the wind is blowing hard and pretty cool. Guess you can't get the weather to cooperate just because you have to work out in it. Scary job.

School News

It has been a busy month already. The 5th grade had a fun day and represented North Powder well as they toured EOU and attended the opera.

Mrs. Casey Townsend visited our school today and educated us about Autism. We learned a lot! Thank you.

Smokey and Sparky and taught us about fire safety.

The Easter Bunny brought us a big basket of Owl Pellets to study. OWL PELLETS? More to come on that.

First Graders Win Snoopy Trophy

The First Grade class won the Snoopy Trophy for the fourth time this year! They read 7,086 minutes in March.

Mrs. Scott said their success is because almost everyone in the class returns their reading logs each month. They are challenging the other classes to remember their reading logs!

Notes from Last Month

Students of the quarter were Paige Marlia for primary, Kaden Krieger for intermediate, Taelynn Hillman for Middle school, and Amanda Feik for high school. These kids were acknowledged for positive attitudes and good citizenship. Way to go kids.

Eddie Bedolla received \$100 sponsorship from the school to play in the eight man football all star game.

Letters of resignations were received and accepted from Karen Tanahill and Ruth Frieboes. Mr Orr received a letter from Ruth Boyd stating she would like to donate the old bell that hung on the original school property back to the school. Mr. Orr said the district would be pleased to have it. Mr. Dixon is checking into adding preschool to the 2015-2016 budget.

cafeateria.

Death Notice

Joel Martin, 52, died over the weekend from a fall near Tamolitch Falls. The news release from the Linn County Sheriff's Office shared the following:

On April 12, at 5:24 p.m., Linn County 911 dispatch center received a call from Central Lane 911 dispatch, requesting a deputy respond to assist medical personnel. It was reported at approximately 3:30 p.m. a subject had fallen and was seriously injured. Joel Jesse Martin, 52, of Bend reportedly was taking pictures and fell from the trail approximately 45 feet into shallow water, striking his head. The fall was witnessed by another hiker, a paramedic, not with Mr. Martin, who attempted to render aid. An emergency room nurse came upon the incident and assisted with resuscitation efforts. Mr. Martin eventually died on scene due to the injuries from the fall.

Joel was a frequent visitor to the Halfway and Richland areas. He had lots of friends here and loved hiking and enjoying the outdoors.

Preparation
Last week, daughter Stephanie and I were invited to speak on Pre-planning and the like. We had a list of those things that you should consider: What does the 'D' stand for on your driver's license and how does the donation work? Do you have a POLST form? What are your wishes when you can't speak for yourself? Insurance? Hospice? End of Life Preparation? The list looked great. But then I turned the list upside down. That is what happens to most people at time of death. Oh I wish I would have gotten things taken care of, written things down. We had a great time in the presentation and if your group would like us to come and speak, we'd love to. Just give me a call: Tami, (541)742-6435.

Ending
Let's end with this thought: "In the spring I have counted one hundred and thirty-six different kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours." ~Mark Twain

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EAGLE VALLEY GRANGE

AUCTION

SATURDAY APRIL 25

VIEWING OF AUCTION ITEMS 10 a.m.
AUCTION BEGINS AT 11 a.m.

HELD AT RICHLAND SCHOOL APARTMENTS GYM
Moody Road in Richland, Oregon

LUNCH SERVED BY THE GRANGE WOMEN
Donuts, coffee, cinnamon rolls at 9:30 a.m. Lunch at 11 a.m.

All contents of the gymnasium will be auctioned which include: locker room storage units and lockers, 6 standard size lift up basketball hoops with and without winches, benches, heavy wooden cupboards, bleachers (3-16 ft, 4-14 ft ft), hockey pucks, basketballs (+40), volleyballs, footballs, baseball bats, combination locks, metal chairs, wooden benches, foldable tennis table, various sport nets, archery targets, and much more. Other auction items (not contents of the gym) will also be available.

If you would like to donate items call Ken Booth 541-893-3050 or Ralph Graven call 541-893-6571. Other questions call 893-6292
All proceeds go to the grange.

Pine & Eagle Valley News

Tami Waldron
tami@pinetel.com



Branding - it was another great weekend for it. Tags here, brands there, lots of food, lots of laughs and then the work is done. For this round anyway.

90th Birthday Party

Walt Saunders will be celebrating his 90th birthday on Saturday, April 18 at the Richland Grange (the new one). The fun begins at 1 p.m. and will go "until the cows come home." Come on out, tell a story, share a memory, have some cake, visit. And...wish Walt an awesome "Happy Birthday!"

Bingo Halfway

The VFW Hall had a nice crowd for the game of bingo Friday night. We had 16 persons to play for the money. The pots were \$10 each. The jackpots decided to stay in the hall once more, so the regular jackpot will be \$65 for 58 numbers called and the special jackpot remains at \$600 for 56 numbers called. Virginia Bridgman walked out the door with the consolation prize of \$18.

Our next bingo will be April 24. Plan on coming out and having a good time and remember that the popcorn, cookies, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and lemonade are free to enjoy as you play. We supply the doblers to play with. All you need is a little cash to get the packets and some good luck.

New Bridge Bingo

Bingo at NBB will be on Saturday, April 18 at 7 p.m. The regular jackpot is \$55 with 52 numbers called. The Special Jackpot is for \$357 with 56 numbers called. Come on out, have fun, holler "BINGO!"

Sandbox

Out of bad comes outstanding. A couple of weeks ago I reported on the sandbox at the elementary school being vandalized. Folks stepped up with new buckets and

shovels. But now, the new, awesome, amazing sand box is here!

There were many hands in the materials, and the making of the sandbox itself. But a huge shout-out to Chris Stacey, Shella DelCurto, Mike Lattin, Barry and Brandy Sangster, and Dustin and Cindi DelCurto.

The sandbox opens up to bench seats, and when everything is put away, it can be locked. Kudos to all who participated. Even all who put their handprints on the outside of the box in various colors of paint.



Computers

For those who may of noticed, "Cans for Computers" is taking place at the high school parking lot horse trailer. Yes, cans are being collected for the 5th and 6th grade classes. Just take your bag(s) down at your convenience and donate.

State Skills USA

Joe Denig will be taking students this weekend to Portland to attend State Skills USA. Looking forward to hearing all about it.

Track and Field

On Friday, April 17, starting at 3 p.m., track and field will be in Vale.

Taco Feed

The wrestlers will be hosting a taco feed on Saturday, April 18 from 4 - 7 p.m. Adults will be \$8, and children under 10 years of age \$5. A family up to six will be \$35. The meal includes tacos, rice, beans, a dessert, and a drink. The event will be held in the elementary school