

Sumpter News

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Only 7 1/2 inches of snow fell in February, bringing the winter's total to just under 111 inches. On the first of March, almost 2 inches fell, but showers started that afternoon and have been frequent the whole first week of March. There was a pretty coating of snow at 6 a.m. Monday morning, but by 9 a.m. much of it had melted. The 20 foot high piles of snow have all shrunk down to 10 and 12 footers. Looks like LeAnne was wrong in hoping for another 2 feet of snow. On the other hand, as of Sunday, Phillips Reservoir was finally up over 10,000 acre-feet.

Calendar (as of March 6)

Thursday, March 10 – Sumpter Valley Community Volunteers Meeting, Schoolhouse, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 12 – Sumpter Valley Railroad Board Meeting, Baker City, 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 12 – Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club, Schoolhouse, 6:30 p.m.

SPRING FORWARD: March 12 last day of standard time, March 13 first day of daylight savings time

Monday, March 14 – Powder River Rural Board Meeting, Mosquito Flat, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15 – SVFD Auxiliary, elections, 10 a.m. Schoolhouse

Tuesday, March 15 – Sumpter Volunteer Fire Department, City Hall

Tuesday, March 15 – Powder River Rural Fire Dept fire train-

ing, Mosquito Flat, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 17 – Bag Ladies, Schoolhouse, noon-?

Thursday, March 17 – Planning Commission, City Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 18 – Bingo, Schoolhouse, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22 (maybe) – City Council, City Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22 – Alpine Chapter O.E.S., Masonic Hall, 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 2 – Community Breakfast, Schoolhouse, 8 a.m.

City

Planning Commission met on Feb. 25 and March 3. There were preliminary reviews of an easement adjustment, a conditional use permit, and street vacation requests. On the Feb. 25, the Commissioners started going through lists of emergency kits and dividing items into what was most appropriate for having ready to grab and "Go!" if only a couple of hours of warning were given on an evacuation to a list of what to gather if a "Ready" or "Get Set" warning was issued. On the March 3, Goal 2 (of 14) of the Comprehensive Plan was discussed. Suggested changes will be reviewed before moving on to Goal 5 (Goals 3 and 4 already looked at).

People

The Scoop 'n' Steamer has been closed working on taxes. In addition to the cabins and restaurant here in Sumpter, the Farnsworths still have a couple of businesses in Utah to get wrapped up. They're scheduled to re-open March 9 and

will run breakfast specials on Mondays in March for local residents. See their Facebook page for more details. In related news, we wish their son-in-law, Andy, speedy recovery from his gall bladder surgery.

Leland and Nancy Myers traveled to Coeur d'Alene last week for the Idaho State Professional Land Surveyors Conference. Leland is President of Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon this year. The couple stayed with Leland's cousin Bruce Anderson and his wife Paula and did a lot of catching up. There were also several good speakers and some great networking opportunities at the conference.

Soda Mountain Pet Supplies, Books, and Odds & Ends reaches its fifth anniversary with walls on March 18. Sadly, no sales event is planned. The pet supply portion of the business was a frequent visitor to Sumpter's Memorial and Labor Day Flea Markets from 2001 until the owner returned to her childhood home in the fall of 2010 after 29 in the Seattle area, attending college and raising a daughter.

Churches

Sunday morning services are held at St. Brigid's in the Pines at Auburn and Bonanza in Sumpter on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. followed by a coffee 'hour.' Weekly services at McEwen Bible Fellowship include Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship at 11 a.m., and Wednesday evening prayer at 6:45 p.m.

North Powder News

North Powder School Honors Classified Staff

March 7-11 was Classified Employees Week and North Powder students extended a special thanks to Viki Turner, Coy Turner, John Frieboes, Krista Smith, Minnie Shoemaker, Betsy Nedrow, Shanna McLean, Deb Jones, Marji Lind, Lindsay Gray, Nancy Simonis, Shorty Schwehr, Erin Thompson, Emily Bingham, Debra Bailey, Jean Murphy, and Linda Brookshire.

Missoula Children's Theater Performance on Friday

This Friday, March 11 at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. North Powder students will perform Pinocchio. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for students.

FFA Team Wins Sectionals

Congratulations to the FFA Greenhand Parliamentary Procedure Team for winning the sectional competition at Eastern Oregon University! The competition consisted of the top three teams from the Snake River, Eastern Oregon, and Blue Mountain FFA districts. The North Powder team advances on to the state contest which will take place March 18-21 in Corvallis at the Oregon FFA State convention. The Oregon State winner will have the opportunity of advancing to the National competition which will take place next fall in Indianapolis Indiana. The team members include Samuel Pointer, Logan Nedrow, Raimy Brown, Sonora Blair, Skylar Blakenship, and Hollie Minor.

From the Archives- North Powder News, March 10, 1917

Snow slides have been giving the O.W.R. & N. trouble on the Telocaset hill and trains have been late during the first of the week.

Professor Lenard Allen of the Oregon Agriculture College was in town a short time Wednesday. He visited the high school and made a short talk before the Junior Citizens League. Mr. Allen will meet with the JCL boys March 15.

Mrs. Walter Jones entertained a number of friends at her home Tuesday evening. Five-hundred as well as other amusements were enjoyed until a late hour. Those present were: H.F. White and wife, W.A. Hudelson and wife,

T.S. Maxwell and wife, Curtis Dalton and Mrs. Lizzie Dalton.

Stallions at Alta Stables in Pendleton

Imported Percheron and Belgian stallions that are extra good. Besides other Percherons, Belgian, English Shire and Clydesdales with imported ancestors that young and good with correct pedigrees that are desirable. One pair extra Percheron mares. If you are a customer and want to save your money, take time to come see me. JR Justice, Importer, Pendleton Oregon.

Baker Steers Bring \$9 on Portland Market

Wm. Duby of Baker had two cars of prime steers on market which he succeeding in topping the market with one load. The load which topped the market was fed by Mr. W.A. Payton, also of Baker, and all were whitefaces. The load averaged 1144 pounds being fed on hay.

Showing at the Bungalow Theater

Sunday, March 11 - 5,000 Feet of Sunniss--Gladys Hulet in the "Shine Girl." If you've got a grouch and want to keep it, don't come.

Friends in Council

Mrs. Maud Riggs celebrated her thirtieth birthday by having the Club Reading at her home. The last chapter in "History of the Painting" was finished this week and the members will take up the study "Improvement of Towns and Cities" for their lesson March 21. Mrs. Riordan furnished some very entertaining music on the piano and Mrs. Burns instructed the ladies on what to wear. After feasting on pie of the Rhode Island Red variety, all took their departure for other parts of town. The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Carrie Shourds.



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Property Tax Deferral Program Deadline Approaching

Important filing deadlines are approaching for the state's Property Tax Deferral for Senior and Disabled Citizens program.

Program participants need to re-certify their eligibility every two years. Forms were sent in February to those who need to re-certify this year, and those forms need to be returned to the department by April 11, said Jason Brockie, program manager.

"Participants need to recertify by the deadline or the state won't pay their property taxes in November," Brockie said. If they miss the deadline, their account will be placed in inactive status and they'll have to reapply to the program before future property taxes can be deferred, he said.

Those who want to apply for deferral for the first time have until April 15 to file their paperwork with their county assessor's office. Program participants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be either:
 - At least 62 years old, or
 - A disabled citizen receiving or eligible to receive federal Social Security disability benefits.
- Own or be in the process of buying the property.
- Have a recorded deed or sales contract in their name, or have a revocable trust.
- Have lived on the property for at least five years.
- Carry homeowners insurance.
- Have a household income of less than \$43,000. This includes all taxable and non-taxable income for the applicant(s) and spouse(s).
- Have a net worth of \$500,000 or less, not including the value of the home in the program or personal property.
- Either have no reverse mortgage, or, if they have a reverse mortgage, they need to have been in the deferral program prior to 2011.

Applications are available at www.oregon.gov/dor/deferral.

The deferral program allows eligible senior citizens and people with disabilities to have the state pay property taxes on their behalf until they move, sell their home, or die. A lien is placed on their home, and all taxes, interest, and fees must be repaid before the lien is removed. Oregon's deferral program has approximately 6,200 active participants.

For more information, call (503) 945-8348 or send an email to deferral.unit@oregon.gov.

Visit www.oregon.gov/dor to get tax forms, check the status of your refund, or make tax payments; or call (800) 356-4222 toll-free from an Oregon prefix (English or Spanish); (503) 378-4988 in Salem and outside Oregon; or email questions.dor@oregon.gov. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired), call (800) 886-7204.

Adopt a Friend!



My name is **Manny** and I am a five year old Shih Tzu. My "Dad" just died and I am looking for a new home. It's almost like going to Hollywood! Things sure happened fast after I met the people at Best Friends of Baker. I've been groomed, vaccinated, neutered and loved. A lot for a little fellow to take in. I don't remember if I've ever been groomed before, but it sure feels nice. I am house broken 100% and I've learned to use the doggie door. I would love to go for a walk and ride in the car; I haven't had many car rides until now. I love to have my neck and ears massaged and I've been known to simply "zone out" while being massaged. I hope a very nice person or family that needs a little puff of love will want to make me a part of their family.

I am currently living in a foster home with a nice woman and her three little dogs and we all get along great. I would also like a yard to keep me close to the family and safe. If you would like more information or wish to meet me please call Best Friends: 541-519-7387 or 541-519-4530.

Call Best Friends of Baker, Inc.
541-519-7387



Seventeenth Annual
All Kids Rodeo
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Open to all kids age 4 through 14 - FREE!
Admission: \$5 - Adults

Saturday, March 26
11 a.m.
(Sign in begins at 10 a.m.)
Baker County Fairgrounds Show Barn

Mutton Busting • Sack Races
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Awards and Prize Money