



The Bismarck Tribune/Tom Stromme, File

In this May 23, 2018, file photo, then U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke speaks at the Williston Basin Petroleum Conference in the Bismarck Event Center in Bismarck, N.D.

Outgoing U.S. Interior secretary defends legacy

By MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — As former U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke exits Washington chased by ethics investigations and criticism of his actions favoring industry, he told The Associated Press he's lived up to the conservation ideals of Teddy Roosevelt and insisted the myriad allegations against him will be proven untrue.

The former Montana congressman also said he quit President Donald Trump's cabinet on his own terms, despite indications he was pressured by the White House to resign effective Wednesday.

During almost two years overseeing an agency responsible for managing 500 million acres of public lands, Zinke's broad rollbacks of restrictions on oil and gas drilling were cheered by industry. But they brought a scathing backlash from environmental groups and Democratic lawmakers who accused him of putting corporate profits ahead of preservation.

In his first interview since stepping down, Zinke said the changes he instituted meshed with Roosevelt's belief in balance between nature and industry. He added that they were needed in part to unfetter energy companies bound by unreasonable drilling curbs, largely imposed under former President Barack Obama.

"Teddy Roosevelt said conservation is as much development as it is preservation," Zinke said, reference a 1910 speech by the Republican president. "Our work returned the American conservation ethic to best science, best practices ... rather than an elitist view of non-management that lets nature take its course."

House Democrats plan to put Zinke's almost two-year tenure under the spotlight with oversight hearings beginning next month, said Adam Sarvana, a spokesman for Rep. Raul Grijalva of Arizona, the Democrat in line to lead the House Natural Resources Committee.

The hearings initially will focus on policy changes such as "give-aways" to the oil and gas industry under the leadership of Zinke, Sarvana said. He added they later could be expanded to include the various ethics investigations pending against Zinke, a former Navy SEAL and avowed Trump loyalist.

The investigations have ranged from a probe into a land deal involving Zinke and the chairman of energy services giant Halliburton, to questions about his decision to reject a casino in Connecticut sought by two tribes.

During his interview with the AP, Zinke denied a *Washington Post* report that Interior Department investigators believe he may have lied to them, which has reportedly prompted an examination of potential criminal violations by the U.S. Justice Department's public integrity section.

Several other investigations into Zinke concluded with no findings of wrongdoing. In one case he was faulted by investigators for violating a department policy by allowing his wife to ride in government vehicles with him. That report also said the Interior Department spent more than \$25,000 to provide security for the couple during a vacation to Turkey and Greece.

For the energy industry, Zinke brought relief from rules imposed under Obama that were meant to limit drilling in sensitive wildlife habitat, curb emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon monoxide and protect water supplies.

Despite the Democrats' newfound power in Washington after taking control of the House of Representatives, industry representatives said Zinke's impact will be lasting. That's because they involved agency regulations rather than congressional action and came at the order of Trump, said Dan Naatz, vice president of government relations for the Independent Petroleum Association of America.

Local students named to Lewis-Clark honor roll

LEWISTON, Idaho — Local students were named to the 2018 fall semester honor roll at Lewis-Clark State College by earning either President's List or Dean's List status.

Named to the President's List: Natalie Campbell of Condon, and Eric R. Coffelt, Jansen Edmiston and Sydnee Miller of Hermiston.

Named to the Dean's List: Allison Mulcare of Pendleton. To qualify for the President's List students must have a 3.75 grade point average or higher for the semester and take at least 12 graded credits in level 100 classes or above. The Dean's List uses the same requirements but students must have a GPA between 3.25 and 3.749.

OBITUARIES

Sami Rae Taylor

Hermiston

May 1, 1945 — Jan. 3, 2019

Sami Rae Taylor of Hermiston was born May 1, 1945, in Colville, Washington, the daughter of Newell and Jessica (Bestrom) Wilson. She passed away surrounded by loves ones in Hermiston on Thursday, January 3, 2019, at the age of 73.

Sami met the love of her life, Donald Taylor, in 1972. The couple was united in marriage on January 23, 1973, in Yakima, Wash. They lived in Wapato, Wash., where they worked a ranch until moving to Hermiston, Oregon, in 1976.

In Hermiston they built Frasu's restaurant, which they operated until 1991. In 1990 they opened a second restaurant in Yakima, Wash. — Marti's, which they operated for several years. Sami then worked as a manager of Shari's Restaurant in Hermiston. Next she took a position as an outside sales representative for Sysco Foods while also helping her husband run a cattle ranch in Starkey and a wheat ranch near Cayuse. She was affectionately known by family and friends as an unstoppable force.

When the couple retired they enjoyed many trips to Alaska, Canada, Nevada,

the Blue Mountains and the Oregon coast. Sami was an avid supporter of St. Jude Children's Hospital, a horse lover, businesswoman, a loyal friend, and a beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

She is survived by her husband of near 46 years, Donald of Hermiston; children Stephen (Shawna) Taylor of Hermiston, Jamie (Simon) Meacham of Washington, D.C., Angie Lane of Spokane, Wash., and Alise Cortez of Dallas, Texas; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Sandra.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 11, 2019, in the Burns Mortuary chapel, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston, OR 97838. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, family suggest memorial donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Sami Taylor.

To leave an online condolence for the family please go to www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com



Taylor

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DEATHS

Ronald Leroy Kellmer

Weston

July 19, 1936 — Jan. 4, 2019

Ronald Leroy Kellmer, 82, of Weston, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2019, at his home. He was born July 19, 1936. Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home of Milton-Freewater is in charge of arrangements.

John L. Borgerson

Walla Walla

July 4, 1928 — Dec. 29, 2018

Former Pendleton resident John L. Borgerson, 90, of Walla Walla, died Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018, in Walla Walla. He was born July 4, 1928. Services are pending with Burns Mortuary of Pendleton. Sign the online guest book at www.burnsmortuary.com

MEETINGS

MONDAY, JAN. 7

STOKES LANDING SENIOR CENTER BOARD, 6 p.m., Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane, Irrigon. (Karen 541-922-3137)

MILTON-FREEWATER PLANNING COMMISSION, 6:30 p.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library Albee Room, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. 6:30 p.m. study session, 7 p.m. regular meeting. (Lisa Wasson 541-938-8235)

HEPPNER PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 p.m., Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner. (541-676-9618)

TUESDAY, JAN. 8

PENDLETON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, 12 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-8100)

PORT OF UMATILLA COMMISSION, 1 p.m., Port of Umatilla offices, 505 Willamette Ave., Umatilla. (541-922-3224)

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT, 1:30 p.m., Boardman City Hall, 200 City Center Circle, Boardman. (Shawn Halsey 541-966-3774)

PENDLETON FARMERS MARKET BOARD, 5:30 p.m., Pendleton Early Learning Center, 455 S.W. 13th St., Pendleton. (541-969-9466)

WESTON CEMETERY BOARD, 6 p.m., Memorial Hall, 210 E. Main St., Weston. (541-566-3313)

PENDLETON LIBRARY BOARD, 6 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave, Pendleton. (541-966-0380)

ATHENA-WESTON SCHOOL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE SESSION, 6 p.m., Athena Elementary School, 375 S. Fifth St., Athena. (Paula Warner 541-566-3551)

LEXINGTON TOWN COUNCIL, 7 p.m., Lexington Town Hall, 425 F. St., Lexington. (541-989-8515)

PENDLETON CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Donna Biggerstaff 541-966-0209)

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9

UKIAH SCHOOL DISTRICT, 8 a.m., Ukiah Community School, 201 Hill St., Ukiah. (541-427-3731)

MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, 9 a.m., Irrigon Public Library, 200 N.E. Main Ave., Irrigon. (541-676-9061)

MILTON-FREEWATER CEMETERY MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 3, 12 p.m., Milton-Freewater Golf Course restaurant, 301 Catherine St., Milton-Freewater. (541-938-5531)

PENDLETON FAÇADE COMMITTEE, 3:30 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community development conference room, 500 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Julie Chase 541-966-0204)

RIVERSIDE SITE COUNCIL, 5:30 p.m., Riverside High School library, 210 N.E. Boardman Ave., Boardman. (541-676-9128)

UPCOMING SERVICES

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

ANGOTTI, CAROLINE — Service at 10:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1308 Washington Ave., La Grande. Interment will follow at 2 p.m. at the Milton-Freewater Cemetery.

BISSINGER, VIRGINIA — Recitation of the rosary at 10:30 a.m., followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Burial will follow at 2 p.m. at Pleasant View Cemetery, Stanfield.

COBLENS, BOB — Celebration of life at 2 p.m. at Munselle-Rhodes Funeral Home, 902 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. A reception will follow at the Upper 9 on the Milton-Freewater Golf Course.

PEGRAM, CORAL — Celebration of life service at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1035 S.E. Ninth St., Hermiston.

SMITH, JOHN — Viewing from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the chapel at Burns Mortuary, 685 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston.

STONE, WILLIAM — Memorial service at 1 p.m. at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop, 131 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton.

TINKER, BOB — Celebration of life from 1-3 p.m. at the Milton-Freewater Elks Lodge, 611 N. Main St.

VONDERAHE, MARGIE — Funeral services at 10 a.m. at the First Community Church of God, 13 S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. Concluding services and interment will follow at the Milton-Freewater Cemetery.

SUNDAY, JAN. 6 — TUESDAY, JAN. 8

No services scheduled

COMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

SATURDAY SPIN-IN, 1-4 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. For spinners, knitters, weavers, felters, fiber enthusiasts and folks who are just fiber-curious. Drop-ins welcome. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)

OLDIES NIGHT: HITS OF 1959, 7-10 p.m., Wesley United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. BJ the DJ spins hits by artists including Johnny Horton, The Fleetwoods, The Platters, Guy Mitchell and more. Free. (Bob Jones 541-938-7028)

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

SPECIAL NEEDS OPEN GYM, 12:30-1 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free for special needs children and families. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

MONDAY, JAN. 7

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Get some exercise even when the weather is bad. Free. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 a.m., Athena Public Library, 418 E. Main St., Athena. For ages birth to 6. (541-566-2470)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

ART STUDIO, 4-5:30 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free class for ages 7-12 to develop skills and encourage art exploration. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)

FAKE NEWS: HOW TO SPOT IT, 6 p.m., Pendleton Public Library National Parks area, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Learn to use library resources to get good, reliable, dependable information. Free. (Heather Culley 541-966-0380)

TUESDAY, JAN. 8

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Get some exercise even when the weather is bad. Free. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30-11 a.m., Stanfield Public Library, 180 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. (541-449-1254)

TRIPLE P DISCUSSION GROUP, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gain information in dealing with problem behaviors exhibited by children ages 0-12, including disobedience (Jan. 8), fighting and aggression (Jan. 15), bedtime routines (Jan. 22) and hassle-free shopping with children (Jan. 29). Free, registration not required. Attend one or all. (541-966-0380)

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service available by donation. (541-567-3582)

SKILLS FOR LIFE, 3 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gym activities at 3 p.m., life skills at 4 p.m. for middle and high school students. Registration requested. (Suzanne Moore 541-276-3987)

CRAFTERNOONS, 4:15 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Drop in for a group or individual craft project. All ages. (541-966-0380)

LOTTERY

Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019
Lucky Lines
04-08-12-13-FREE-17-24-25-31
Estimated jackpot: \$35,000

Pick 4
1 p.m.: 2-6-9-5
4 p.m.: 4-9-1-9
7 p.m.: 3-5-3-3
10 p.m.: 4-3-6-6
Friday, Jan. 4, 2019
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 8-0-2-3

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The Mule (R)
11:10* 2:00* 4:30 7:10 9:40
Bumblebee (PG13)
11:00* 1:30* 4:00 6:40 9:30
Mary Poppins Returns (PG)
1:20* 4:10 7:00 9:50
Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse (PG)
11:20* 1:50* 4:20 6:50 9:20
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The Mule (R)
4:30 7:10 9:40
Bumblebee (PG13)
4:00 6:40 9:30
Mary Poppins Returns (PG)
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