

Historic Elkhorn Mountain cabin open for rental

Anthony Lake Guard Station usually serves as Nordic ski center

By JAYSON JACOBY
Baker City Herald

BAKER CITY — The COVID-19 pandemic has made it possible for some people to spend a couple of nights this winter in a snow-bound log cabin high in the Elkhorn Mountains.

But if you wait long you might miss your chance.

Reservations for the historic Anthony Lake Guard Station, built in the 1930s by a Civilian Conservation Corps crew on the north shore of Anthony Lake, became available Jan. 1 on the website for Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort.

Within a couple of days, the two-story cabin had been reserved for almost every weekend through the ski season, which ends in early April. The guard station opens for renting on Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The guard station rents for \$350 per night, with a two-night minimum.

“People are always looking for a place to stay up here,” said Chelsea Judy, marketing director for the ski area about 35 miles northwest



Chelsea Judy/Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort
The historic Anthony Lake Guard Station is open for overnight rentals this winter.

of Baker City.

The resort doesn't have overnight lodging except for a pair of yurts.

And reservations for those structures are quickly snapped up, Judy said.

As of Jan. 7, one of the yurts had been reserved for all but two days — Jan. 26 and Jan. 27 — and the other was claimed on every day but the final day of the season, April 4.

The guard station, by

contrast, normally is open for overnight stays only during the spring, summer and fall.

During the ski season, though, the structure usually serves as the Nordic center for Anthony Lakes, with cross-country ski and snowshoe rentals, trail passes to groomed routes, lesson registrations, coffee and a warm fireplace to sit beside.

But not during the pandemic.

The issue, Judy said, is size.

The guard station, though it can accommodate eight people for overnight stays, has the typical tidy dimensions of a log cabin. That, combined with its single entrance, makes the cabin unsuitable as a Nordic center while the ski area follows social distancing guidelines, she said.

But resort staff members had a brainstorming session during which they decided to ask the U.S. Forest Service, which owns the guard station,

whether it could be opened for overnight stays this winter.

The agency agreed, Judy said.

Preparing the guard station was simple since it was still set up for overnight stays and had not yet been changed to serve as the Nordic center, she said.

The guard station is a bit more plush than the ski area's yurts, having both running water and electricity, as well as a full kitchen.

A new gas fireplace was installed recently in the log cabin, Judy said.

Although the guard station is reserved for weekends, as of Thursday there were more than 35 nights available. That includes two Fridays — Feb. 12 and March 26 — as well as multiple Sunday nights on Jan. 24 and 31, Feb. 21 and March 7 and 14.

Judy said she's not surprised the guard station was reserved on so many nights despite the two-night minimum and the relatively high rate compared with most regional lodging.

She noted that the charge is comparable to the yurts, considering the size and additional amenities at the guard station.

One of the yurts, which sleeps up to five people, rents for \$200 per night, and the larger yurt, with a capacity

up to eight, goes for \$250 per night.

Another change this winter is the resort offering catered dinners, as well as growlers of beer, for guests at the yurts and the guard station, Judy said.

Although the guard station won't be the Nordic center this winter, cross-country skiers and snowshoers still have a place to go.

Judy said a 24-foot travel trailer will serve as the Nordic center starting Saturday, Jan. 9. The trailer will be set up in the Elkhorn Crest Trail parking lot, about an eighth of a mile east of the guard station.

The portable center will have the usual ski and snowshoe rentals, pass sales and hot coffee, she said.

One benefit of the temporary location is additional parking, Judy said.

The Elkhorn Crest Trail parking lot, which normally is not plowed during winter, is much larger than the parking area near the guard station, she said.

The latter area will be plowed as usual, but it will be open only to guard station and yurt guests.

Judy said Anthony Lakes plans to continue its current operations, with the lodge closed except for restrooms.

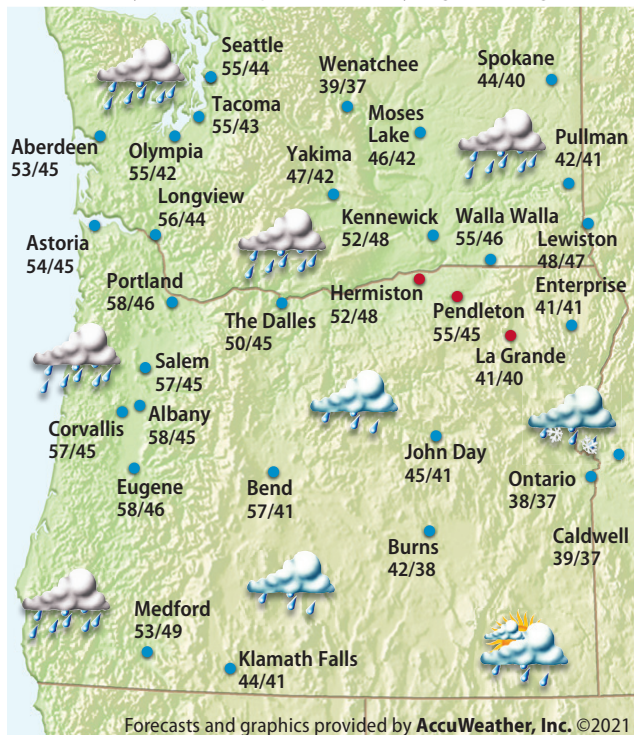
All visitors are required to wear face coverings.

Forecast for Pendleton Area

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Not as cool with showers around	Mostly cloudy; winds subsiding	Becoming cloudy	Rain and drizzle in the p.m.	Rather cloudy
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
55° 45°	53° 30°	44° 31°	40° 34°	42° 33°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
52° 48°	55° 29°	45° 31°	40° 32°	44° 33°

OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



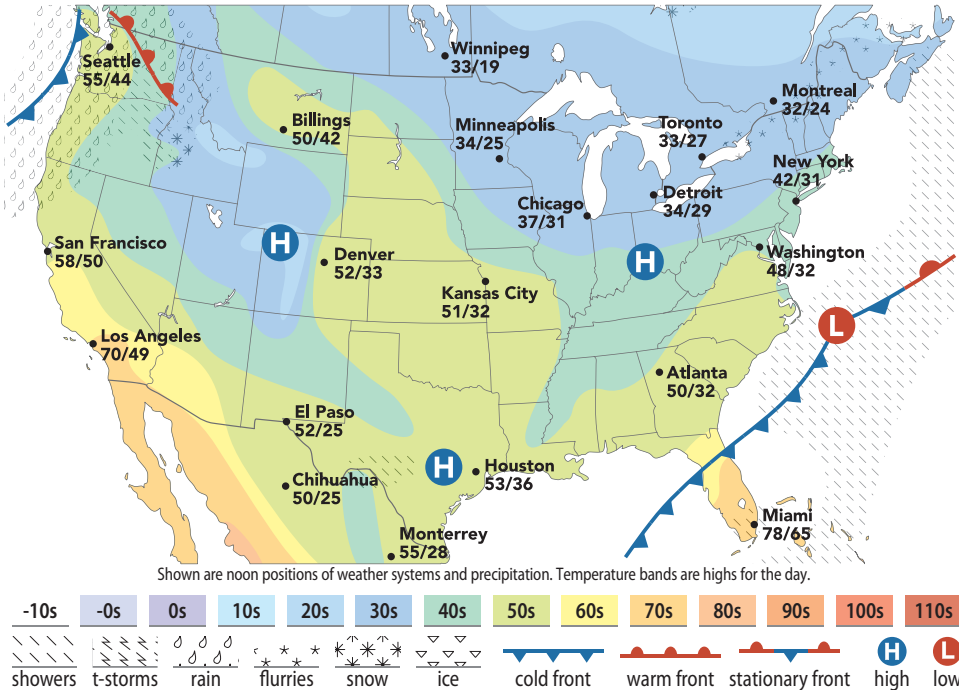
ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	47°	30°
Normals	41°	27°
Records	63° (1953)	-11° (1963)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	0.37"	
Normal month to date	0.62"	
Year to date	0.37"	
Last year to date	0.19"	
Normal year to date	0.62"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	38°	30°
Normals	41°	28°
Records	61° (2014)	-10° (1937)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	0.31"	
Normal month to date	0.45"	
Year to date	0.31"	
Last year to date	0.01"	
Normal year to date	0.45"	
WINDS (in mph)		
Today	SSW 4-8	WSW 10-20
Pendleton	S 10-20	W 12-25
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	7:34 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	4:34 p.m.	
Moonrise today	7:27 a.m.	
Moonset today	4:02 p.m.	

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 79° in Boca Raton, Fla. Low -36° in Antero Reservoir, Colo.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Rep. Bentz opposes impeachment but expects Trump to be held 'accountable'

By LES ZAITZ
Malheur Enterprise



Bentz

ONTARIO — U.S. Rep. Cliff Bentz, the only Republican in Oregon's Congressional delegation, said on Saturday, Jan. 9, that he doesn't think President Donald Trump should resign or be impeached. He said he expects the president to be held accountable "in the proper way."

Bentz, just finishing his first week in Congress representing the 2nd Congressional District, said in an interview on Jan. 9 with the Malheur Enterprise that impeaching Trump wouldn't be a "productive exercise."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has said the House would move ahead to impeach Trump if he didn't resign. A draft of Articles of Impeachment said Trump should be impeached for inciting an insurrection at the nation's Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 6.

Oregon's U.S. sena-

tors, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, have both called for Trump's removal from office, as have U.S. Reps. Earl Blumenauer, Suzanne Bonamici and Peter DeFazio, all Democrats. U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader, also a Democrat, announced on Jan. 9 that he would support impeachment. A day earlier, he publicly apologized for comparing impeachment to a lynching during a Congressional call.

That leaves Bentz alone in the delegation in supporting the president's continued service in office until the change of administrations on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

Bentz said he didn't support the call for a resignation because "he's going to be gone."

He opposes impeachment.

"I don't think that's the

proper thing to do," said Bentz, an attorney from Ontario. "The proper thing to do is to have him leave office under the normal course."

Bentz said, however, that he expects Trump is "going to be held accountable in the proper way" for his role in the Jan. 6 insurrection.

He said he has asked for research on what may be the options "under the law" to hold Trump accountable.

Bentz was among 138 Republicans who voted on Thursday, Jan. 7, to object to Pennsylvania's election results. The vote came just hours after the invasion of the Capitol was quelled. Bentz didn't support the objection raised to Arizona's results.

Bentz represents a heavily Republican district that covers Eastern Oregon and large portions of Southern Oregon. He resigned his seat in the state Senate to run for Congress, winning a seat vacated by the retirement of Republican Greg Walden of Hood River.

IN BRIEF

Walla Walla police, firefighters save man from suicide at Whitman College

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — A man who was threatening to hang himself from a balcony at Whitman College was stopped by Walla Walla firefighters and police officers on Saturday, Jan. 9, according to a news release.

According to the police department release, dispatchers were notified around 11 a.m. on Jan. 9 of a man who was suicidal. Family members of the man told police he had left their home with the intention to kill himself.

Police were then notified of a man spotted on a balcony at the Whitman College with a rope around his neck.

Officers and Walla Walla Fire Department personnel arrived and began speaking with the man while another officer and a firefighter went into the building to get closer to him, the release noted.

At one point, the man reportedly removed the rope from his neck to adjust it. The officer and the firefighter in the building took advantage of the moment, grabbed the man off the ledge and tackled him to the floor.

The man was taken to a nearby hospital for evaluation and treatment, the release noted.

Police spokesman Officer Gunner Fulmer said in the release that firefighters and officers of the city have had a great working relationship and "this just shows how good we can work together for the public."

— Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

CORRECTIONS: The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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