

# People key to Alpine Meadows' success

By Rochelle Danielson  
For the Chieftain

Lyrics of a song, made popular in the mid '40s by crooner Bing Crosby, suggest that to be happy you've got to accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative and latch onto the affirmative.

AMGC accentuates the positive. Thumbs up to the Alpine Meadows greens superintendent, Gregg Sturtevant and crew, Greg Oveson, Mac Huff, Jon and JD Hagan, Gary Willett, Joshua Shoffner and Sherri Currie. The fairways, the greens, and yes, even the rough is up to snuff.

Thumbs up to the sculptured tee boxes that add to the aesthetics of the course.

Thumbs up to Curt Nebel, clubhouse manager, for making the clubhouse a "golfer friendly" gathering place to enjoy coffee, crumpets and conversation.

Thumbs up to clubhouse employee, Julie Sears, who cooks, serves beverages, and helps in pro shop. Sears, along with Sherri Currie has added a tasty pizzazz to "lunch on the green."

Another thumbs up to Christine Eaves for holding down the fort afternoons and evenings.

Thumbs up to the ladies golf group (project chaired by Ernestine Kilgore and Pat Patterson), who has made refreshing improvements to the women's restroom ... vinyl flooring, newly paint-



**Birdies, Bogeys & Bunkers**

ed walls, and new commodes.

Thumbs up to the Board of Directors for the work they do. AMGC is open to two new board members Jan. 1, 2016. If interested, this is your chance to become a part of the decision-making process for your golf course.

Thumbs up to the 42 Rat Race couples who braved the weather to golf in the Labor Day weekend tournament.

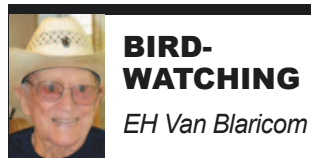
Thumbs up to golfers who obey golf cart signs, and keep carts away from greens.

Eliminate the negatives with thumbs down to those who fail to repair ball marks, and also those who spit sunflower shells on greens. Although not correlated ... thumbs up to firefighters and "finally" smokeless skies. Thumbs down to those who throw cigarette butts on the fairway.

Latch on to the affirmative with thumbs up to the Wallowa County Chieftain for publishing AMGC events. One reader of the column, who is a non-golfer, mentioned that she now knows the difference between bunkers and BOOGIES. Laugh. Laugh. Love it.

Come golf. Alpine Meadows is a happy bunch.

# Osprey a fish-eating hawk



**BIRD-WATCHING**  
EH Van Blaricom



Courtesy photo/E.H. Van Blaricom

An osprey on her nest.

Last month when I was taken on a ride to the Joseph Cemetery I spotted this osprey on her nest and luckily I had brought my camera, so I got this photo of a fish-eating hawk. She was standing on her recently built nest on the cross-arm of a power pole. As you can see, the nest is quite deep and is sloppily thrown using coarse sticks, tree bark and baling twine. I had never gotten a picture of an osprey before and I was surprised to see this nest so far away from a lake or stream. All of the nests I have seen were on dead trees right along a river bank.

These fish hawks feed only on fish, but they eat more of what we call trash fish than game fish such as trout and young salmon. However, one time when I backpacked into some lakes in the Cascade Mountains,

I saw an osprey flying over me carrying a rainbow trout that was nearly 18 inches long. (Why couldn't I catch one that big? Most of the trout I caught were less than 12 inches.) I presumed it was taking this beautiful rainbow to feed its young which were usually two to four chicks.

There are several osprey nests along the banks of the Grand Ronde River from Minam to Troy. Some are like eagle nests ... real deep and are used every year.

Ospreys can be found out west from Alaska and

the Yukon clear down to Mexico. They have to migrate south when the lakes and streams get covered with ice. They are able to catch fish that are near the surface by diving feet-first onto their prey. It doesn't matter how slippery a fish is ... once they get hooked by the extremely sharp talons of these fish hawks they will never be "the one that got away."

I was very pleased to get this photo and I will go back there in about a month to see if her chicks have hatched.

# Community Calendar: North End Reunion; theater auditions

## Wednesday, Sept. 9

Mentor Match program, mandatory introductory meeting, 7 p.m. at Building Healthy Families (located in former nursing home building, across the street from the Big Brown Church in Enterprise). Mentor Match helps high school juniors and seniors to become successful entrepreneurs. More info: Stacy Green, 541-398-2314.

Bost Family Traditions trio in concert, 7 p.m. at Wallowa Assembly of God, 606 W Hwy 82 in Wallowa. Free admission. Southern

Gospel singing.

## Sept. 11-13

Hells Canyon Mule Days, Wallowa County Fairgrounds in Enterprise. Includes non-motorized parade through downtown Enterprise on Sept. 12. Info: hellscanyonmuledays.com.

## Sept. 12-13

Volunteer work party on Zumwalt Prairie Preserve. Registration required at 503-802-8100 or orvolunteers@tnc.org.

## Sept. 13-15

Auditions for Mid-Valley Theatre Halloween production of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," 6 to 8:30 p.m. each night in Old Lostine School gymnasium. (Please note that dates posted are changed from last week's listing.) Parts for 12 men ages 13 to adult, six women ages 13 to adult, and four children ages 7-12. Info: Stuart Vencill, 541-432-1630; Lynn Westhof, 541-886-7120.

nior course, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Community Connection in Enterprise. \$15 for AARP members, \$20 non-members. To register, call Community Connection at 541-426-3840.

Wallowa County Blood Drive, noon to 6 p.m., Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. Appointments: Cindi Aschenbrenner, 541-426-2039; Julie Todd, 541-263-0101.

## Thursday, Sept. 17

Ring Praise concert, 7 p.m. at Lostine Presbyterian Church. Featuring handbell soloist Phyllis Tincher and pianist Sean Rogers. Includes hymn history and scripture. Free admission.

## Saturday, Sept. 19

Old-Time Community Barn Dance, 7 to 10 p.m. in the big blue barn, 63327 Tenderfoot Valley Road, Joseph. \$5 per person, under 12 free. Beginners welcome, no partner of special clothing required, all dances taught and called. Info: Laura, 541-398-0800.

## Sunday, Sept. 20

Wallowa County's 3rd annual International Day of Peace celebration, 3 to 7:30 p.m., Joseph Center in Joseph. Free. Art activities for adults and kids begin at 4:30, potluck dinner at 5:30, music at 6:30. Info: Judy Allen, 541-263-2502.

## Saturday, Oct. 10

Founders Day in Lostine. Details to be provided in the coming weeks.

The Community Calendar lists fundraisers, free local events and those with a nominal fee organized by nonprofit organizations. Submit information to calendar@wallowa.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. To promote for-profit events, contact sales representative Brooke Pace at bpace@wallowa.com.

## Saturday, Sept. 12

Annual Wallowa County North End Reunion, 1 p.m. pot-luck dinner at Flora Grange Hall. When planning food to bring, bear in mind the hall has no running water. Info: Herb, 541-276-5207; Evelyn, 541-828-7737.

## Sunday, Sept. 13

Financial Peace University, free information class, 6 p.m. at Enterprise Seventh Day Adventist Church, 305 Wagner. First regular class will be held Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. Info: 208-405-3008.

## Wednesday, Sept. 16

AARP Smart Driver, se-



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