

# Gov. Brown announces plan to house vets

Measure 96 funds will be used to end veterans' homelessness

Governor Kate Brown met with Oregon veteran community leaders during a recent visit to the Lebanon Veterans'

Home and called on the Legislature to support additional investments in veteran services and to provide a home for every veteran in Oregon. Speaking to residents, staff, and veterans' advocates at the Lebanon Veterans' Home, Governor Brown announced that a better than expected revenue forecast by the Office of Economic Anal-

ysis reported an additional \$200 million in state revenue, decreasing the budget gap in the next biennium from \$1.8 billion to \$1.6 billion. With that increase in revenue and veteran's community strong advocacy, Brown supports using general fund money for current veteran services and ensuring that new Measure 96 lottery

funds be focused on expanding services for veterans. "With these additional resources, I am calling for further investments in veteran services and a focused initiative to end veterans' homelessness in Oregon," Brown said. Brown also last week directed the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs and Ore-

gon Housing and Community Services to combine forces and work with front line partners to marshal state, federal, and local resources with non-profits, faith-based organizations, and others to expand veterans' housing. Several regional communities including the City of Eugene, Lane County, the City of Portland, and Mult-

nomah County have shown a pathway with focused innovation and collaboration to ensure a home for every veteran. Governor Brown called on state leaders to invest in similar, proven local initiatives to expand homeless prevention resources and permanent affordable housing options for veterans and their families throughout Oregon.

# County barn tour book in third printing

Ranchers invited to have their barn included

The Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce has announced that calls about the Barn Tour of Wallowa County continue to pour in. That tour was featured in a barn tour book in 2000 and 2002 and due to the continued interest, the Chamber has identified bringing back the barn tour as a 2017 goal. Cheryl Coughlan is heading the project. Coughlan is both the Chamber's Arts Director and the Executive Director of the Josephy Center for Arts & Culture. The Barn Tour Committee that has been assembled has two goals: to add a free tear-off map for visitors to use in a self-guided car tour and print a new edition of the barn book that will be a keepsake. The book will include his-



A Wallowa County Barn.

Courtesy photo

torical information and a few new barns. The tear sheet will be completed in 2017, and the reprinting of the third edition will be completed in 2018.

Coughlan invites any Wallowa County ranchers with an interest in having their barn in

the tour to contact the chamber (541) 426- 4622 and talk to Vicki Searles.

# Grande Ronde Symphony Chamber Concert features unusual instruments

Every week a group of grownups gather at Looking Glass Books in La Grande and bring out their recorders. No, not tape recorders — we're talking those musical instruments you first learned tunes on in grade school. These recorders, however, are much better than the plastic ones you played at school. The ensemble of Denise Hattan, Dave Felley, Beth Gilmore, Cynthia Seaney and Nancy Ames play four different types

of recorders: bass, alto tenor and soprano. Their group is called Prevailing Winds Ensemble and they'll be performing at the Grande Ronde Symphony Association's Chamber Concert April 15. Also performing will be Saxiphobia Northeast. That group is made up of Elburn Cooper on soprano sax; Donna Evans on tenor sax; Keith Van Vickle on alto sax; and Russ Hunt on baritone sax. The saxophone group will

play music from the rare saxophone music library of Elburn Cooper and will feature composers from Bach to Berlin to Gershwin to lesser-knowns from more modern times. Doors open for the event at 6:45 p.m. with music starting at 7:30 p.m. at 86 Hawthorne Drive in La Grande. The performance is titled "An Evening with Sax and Winds." Refreshments will be available. Season chamber concert pass holders get in by flashing

their passes. Others will pay \$25 at the door. For more information visit granderondesymphony.org or contact Patty Sandoz at grsymphony2@gmail.com or (541) 963-7595.

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