

Wallowa County students participate in Rotary 'shadow day'

A number of high school students across the county will be out of the classroom March 6. But they won't be playing hooky.

They'll be part of the annual Rotary Shadow Day, which gives high school juniors an opportunity to visit and shadow a local business or agency of their choice for half a day.

The idea is to connect the students with a profession which might be of interest to them as future career paths, according to retired educator Bob Crawford, who spearheads the event.

Rotary works with Wallowa County Education Service District and Supt. Karen Patton, and each high school student is given a survey listing most of the entities in Wallowa County.

The student selects three professions to shadow. "Karen and I then try to match them up with a willing host," Crawford said. "Generally the students get placed with their first choice."

An early March date is generally selected. It has also been held in November.

"Once a date is set we solicit Rotarians to pick up students, take them to their

respective hosts and return them to school," Crawford said. Businesses and agencies are contacted to make sure they are willing to host. Crawford said no one asked turned down the opportunity this year.

"I have been involved with the program for about 18 years, and with the exception of a couple of years when it did not operate, it runs about the same as when I got involved," Crawford added. "The main exception is that Karen Patton has brought it into the computer age, which has simplified the whole process immeasurably."

Small glitches like students choosing not to go after a host has been established and drivers forgetting to show up to drive or calling up at the last minute to say something has come up and they can't drive are the only snags.

A couple of times a host has called at the last minute to say they can't follow through.

The program is part of a long list of activities Rotary coordinates in support of education, including annual scholarships for seniors.

OBITUARIES

Charles Earl Thornburg April 7, 1922 — February 6, 2018

Charles Earl Thornburg, 95, loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend, left this earth surrounded by his children and his beloved sister.

Charles was born in Enterprise the second of four children to Harold Benjamin Thornburg and Gladys Beaula Floyd.

He had many adventures growing up in the Wallowa Valley hiking, hunting and fishing with his brother, Jerry, and their friends. He and his siblings rode their horses from their home on Alder Slope to school.

Some of his earlier jobs included, herding sheep, ranch hand, fireman and dispatcher on a fire lookout for the U.S. Forest Service, logging camp cook and a sawmill log loader.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served on the USS Coral Sea/USS Anzio in the Pacific during WWII. After the war, he enrolled in Northwest Nazarene College in Nampa, Idaho.

He and a few of his friends worked as carpenters in Fairbanks, Alaska, during their summer breaks. He met his future bride, M. Marjorie Myers while attending college. They married in 1953.

To this union were born two children, James and Janice. Charles was a retired U.S. Postal Service mail carrier; he had the pleasure of meeting many wonderful families during those years. He was an active member of College Church of the Nazarene, where he made many lifelong friends. He had the special qualities of making people laugh and helping them to feel important.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Gladys Thornburg; brother, Gerald Thornburg; sister, Wilma Thornburg Hatfield; and his beloved wife, Marjorie Myers Thornburg.

Charlie is survived by his children; James E. Thornburg of Boise, Janice A. Thomas of Nampa; grandchildren, Abigail S. Thomas of Boise, Colette N. Thomas (Benjamin Turner) of Nampa and Chelsea M. Thomas of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and a sister, Maxine Parks Theissen of Nampa.

A memorial service was Feb. 24 in Nampa. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his name to Hands of Hope Northwest, 1201 S. Powerline Rd., Nampa, ID 83686.

Van Blaricom Aug. 28, 1921 — Feb. 19, 2018

Ervin Henry Van Blaricom (Van) of Joseph, Oregon, passed away at 96. Van was born in Portland to Clyde and Nellie Van Blaricom. He attended Franklin High School and served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Oregon and Alaska after graduation.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he immediately joined the Marines and fought in the battles of Midway, Tulagi and Guadalcanal. After he was injured on Guadalcanal, he returned home to marry his high school sweetheart Betty Jane Persons on July 14, 1943.

Van's love of agriculture and the outdoors lead him to a small farm in Molalla, Ore., and the completion of a college degree in agriculture. In 1954, he moved his young family to the Columbia Basin, north of Pasco, Wash., to homestead.

There he developed an irrigated farm and raised registered Jerseys. In 1969, Van and Betty moved to Wallowa County to ranch in Joseph and pursue his love of hunting, fishing and mountain climbing.

His community service involvement was extensive: Rotary Club, Republican Party, Farm Bureau, Wallowa County Stockgrowers and various activities concerning the conservation of resources in the county, as well as the protection of our American rights.

Van was fiercely patriotic and enjoyed sharing his views through his commentaries on KWVR Radio. He was an avid writer, and wrote multiple feature articles on local citizens, locations and bird columns and wildlife. A highlight of his life was a trip to Washington, D.C., under the Honor Flight program.

Survivors include his four daughters; Joann Wheeler (Jerry) of Redmond, Ore.; Judy Moody (David) of Mesquite, Nev.; Cathy Horrobin (Mike) of Oak Harbor, Wash.; and Carol Allison (Mike) of Boardman, Ore.

Van has eight grandkids and 13 great-grandkids. He is also survived by one sister, Betty Carter of Portland. He was preceded in death by his wife of 70 1/2 years, Betty, four sisters and two brothers.

A "celebration of life" will be 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at VFW Post 4307 in Enterprise. The military service is at 2:30 p.m. Please join the family to celebrate Van's life.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the VFW Post 4307, Enterprise.



Van Blaricom

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edition of
Oregon's Alpenfest
is Sept. 27-30.

Happy 80th Birthday to Carol McCrae!
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Weather Forecast wu
Courtesy of Weather Underground • wunderground.com

	High	Low	Conditions
March 1	41	27	Snow Showers
March 2	36	20	AM Snow
March 3	36	19	Mostly Cloudy
March 4	37	20	Partly Cloudy
March 5	38	18	Mostly Cloudy
March 6	40	23	Mostly Sunny
March 7	43	27	Partly Cloudy

Phases of the moon

March 1	March 9	March 17	March 24
Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	1st Quarter

WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE & SUNSET MARCH 1-7
(from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
6:27	6:25	6:24	6:22	6:20	6:18	6:16
5:36	5:38	5:39	5:40	5:42	5:43	5:45