

Lotsa bull at Botts Angus Ranch



By Bill Bradshaw

Local ranch holds its first auction at home

ENTERPRISE — There was plenty of bull just west of Enterprise, last week, as Beau Botts held his first bull auction at his new auction warehouse at the family ranch.

Botts and wife, Kristen, hosted what they plan as an annual event Thursday, Feb. 25, after constructing the new facility over the past year. They have previously worked with a feedlot in Pilot Rock where they used to haul their bulls for sale. He said they wintered and finished their bulls there in previous years.

“We’ve been involved as partners in Rollin’ Rock Genetic Partners in Pilot Rock for the past eight years and we decided to go off on our own,” Botts said. “We built a new facility here in the past year and it’s our first sale here this year. We’ll be back every year.”

Of the 90 Angus bulls listed in the buyers’ brochure, 74 were sold, Botts said. About 150 buyers came from Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Wyoming and other states.

“We had buyers from all over the country,” he said.

The buyers were greeted with lunch and snacks prior to the 1 p.m. sale, presided over by auctioneer Joe Goggins. Prospective buyers were able to view the bulls from early morning. Those purchased for more than \$3,500



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Registered Angus bulls mill around the feedlot Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021, after Botts Angus Ranch’s first bull sale at its new facility just outside of Enterprise.

were offered free delivery on the first 1,000 miles from Enterprise, according to the brochure.

In the brochure, Botts spoke highly of his past partnership with Rollin’ Rock, but was eager to sell at home.

“We are extremely excited to have our sale at home,” he said. “It was a very tough decision to take the leap and go out on our own.”

Botts said sale prices averaged about \$4,500 per bull.

“The top bull brought \$20,000,” he said. “He’s going to Wyoming.”

Bulls, of course, are sold for the quality of calves they can produce, with proven genetics from past breeding.

“We are still striving to raise good, solid cattle that will go out and work with no problems, help make their new owners profitable and leave outstanding females,” Botts said in the brochure.

The fifth-generation ranch, which includes the Botts’ two

sons, also produces registered and commercial Angus cows.

As with the rest of the world dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, Botts mentioned in the brochure that it will affect the agriculture industry.

“It has been a challenging time for everyone and our fingers are crossed that we will get through this and come out the other side stronger in the ag industry, along with all mankind,” he said.

He added that he’s hoping to keep it peaceful and profitable.

“That being said, I believe if we can keep politics out of it, we are looking at some strong markets the next few years,” he said. “The demand for good, quality beef seems to be high in the U.S. and around the world.”

Bill Bradshaw is a reporter for the Wallowa County Chieftain. Have a business tip? Contact him at 541-398-5503 or bbradshaw@wallowa.com.

Three to be focus for Fishtrap Women’s History Month

Curry, Galvin, Tippett all are local to county

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — Fishtrap Fireside has a multigenerational lineup to mark Women’s History Month in March, with work from three Wallowa County writers, Lynne Curry, Talia Galvin and Janie Tippett.

It will be available Friday, March 5, online at Fishtrap.org or on Fishtrap’s YouTube Channel.

Fishtrap Fireside is a monthly reading series featuring diverse voices from around Wallowa County. This year, you can watch Fireside wherever you are and whenever you want online.

Each month’s episode offers a fresh look at what people of the West are thinking about and writing down.

This month’s episode of Fishtrap Fireside celebrates women of all generations and is sponsored by Kokanee Inn Bed and Breakfast in Joseph.

According to a press release, Lynne Curry moved to Joseph in 2001 with her husband, Benjamin, and they are the proud parents of Molly, 15, and Cece, 12. Raised on the New England coast, Lynne adapted to living in this landlocked region by hiking and skiing in the Wallowa Mountains. She also spends a lot of time thinking about what to eat, which influences much of her writing. Her food essays have appeared in Tin House, including the anthology Food & Booze: A Tin House Literary Feast, Eating Well and Leite’s Culinary.

She currently works as a freelance journalist focused on small-scale farming, animal welfare and sustainable agriculture with articles in The Guardian, HuffPost, Los Angeles Times and many other publications. A former professional cook, Lynne is the author of the grassfed beef cookbook, Pure Beef, that features

several local ranching families. She is working on a follow-up book that explores the range of pasture-raised foods through narrative nonfiction — her all-time favorite writing craft.

Talia Galvin lives in Enterprise, ogling at the mountains with a cup of cocoa in one hand and a baby in the other arm. Growing up, Galvin visited here with her Eastern Oregon-based family many summers to camp and explore, and then returned as a young adult to work for the U.S. Forest Service as a ranger. Her professional career has taken her to Corvallis, Culver, Estacada, Bend and tall buildings for work in design, editorial, photography, outdoor ed and social sciences.

Though she loves variety in her adventures, she always knew that near the Wallows would be her base camp one day. By trade, Talia captures the delight of humanity, love, untold stories and local products with her camera. But it’s in the rare, quiet times that she puts pen to paper in an attempt to decipher that which she wonders and imagines. Lately, waking from dreaming to write down a musing, feed her baby and return to sleep. Beyond park ranger blogging and college literary zines, her writing has often been a practice of personal reflection, so this reading at Fishtrap Fireside will be a world premiere of some inner workings. Learn more at taliajean.com.

Janie Tippett was a columnist for Agritimes NW for 31 years, is the author of Four Lines a Day: The Life and Times of an Imnaha Ranch Woman, has been published in anthologies of Western writers and is a freelance writer. She is a fourth-generation rancher, mother of four, stepmother to three, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Tippett is also a photographer, outdoor enthusiast, is active in two writers groups, and a long time Fishtrapper.

To learn more, visit <https://fishtrap.org/fishtrap-fireside-2>.

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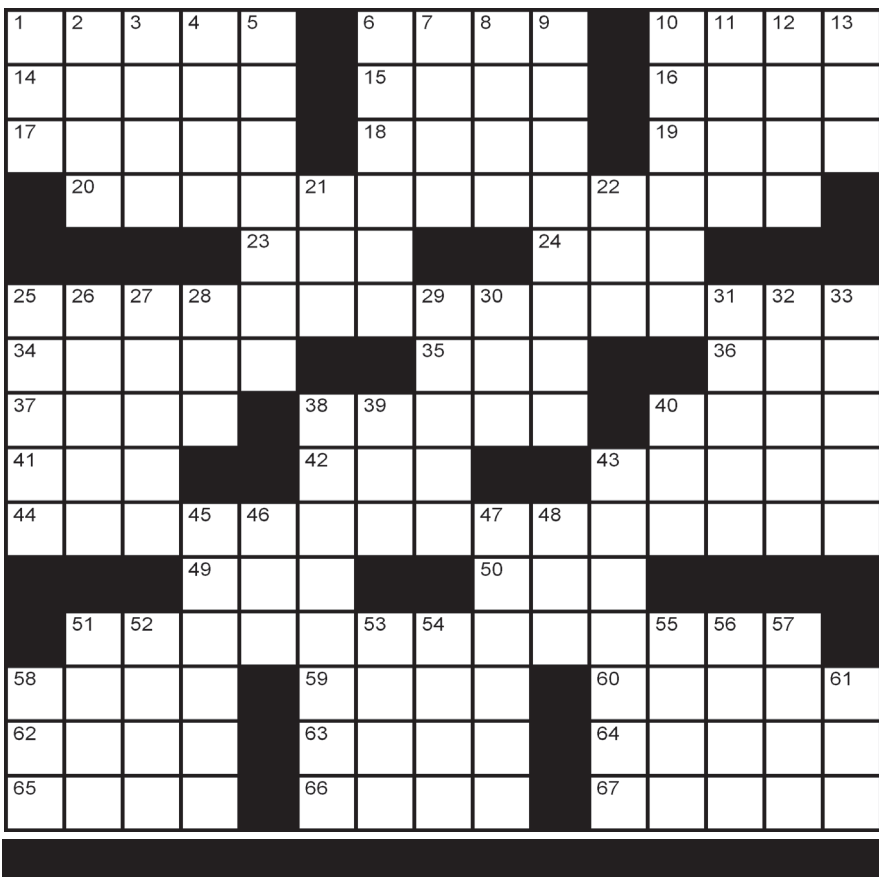


CLUES ACROSS

- Morsel
- Some execs’ degrees
- Secret language
- Sweetie pie
- Military group
- 16, for a square of side length 4
- Traffic tie-up
- Drops from a great height?
- You may save or take one
- ABC show about an autistic surgeon
- Bride’s words
- Good buddy
- 1976 film about a Little League team
- Japanese noodle dish
- X, to Euclid
- Cutting-edge tool?
- Black-and-white sea creature
- Rocks in a hammock
- “Pretty please?”
- Put to work
- Rower’s need
- “America’s Got Talent” judge Cowell
- Classic transformation fairy tale
- Big Apple sch.
- “The Cask of Amontillado” writer
- “Gran Torino” director, and a star of the film hinted at in 20-, 25- and 44-Across
- Saudi Arabia neighbor
- Something to scratch
- Muppet who loves bubble baths
- Reading material at the table?
- ___ von Bismarck
- Freelancers’ figures
- Longhaired lap dog, for short
- Source of peeps
- Las Vegas attractions

CLUES DOWN

- Loops into a conversation, briefly



- Tiniest puppy
- Jazz player’s home?
- Swampy spot
- Hercule Poirot, nationality-wise
- Leave on an island
- Country star Paisley
- In the thick of
- Plot summary
- Where to live like a king
- Cookie that may be Lady Gaga-themed
- Cherished
- End a fast
- Roulette bet for which 21 would be a win
- It’s hailed on a city street
- Sometimes-rainbow fish
- Severe
- Alex Trebek was one
- “Don’t ___ stranger!”
- Online birthday message
- One of the five W’s
- “Me, too!”
- Silklike synthetic fabric
- Playground favorite
- Liquid for contact lenses
- Wrong ___ (road sign)
- Slang for \$1,000,000
- Shish kebab holders
- One-of-a-kind
- Ob-___ (doctor for women)
- Ultimate outcome
- Place for a sleeping soldier
- Ontario native
- Tall and thin
- Suffix with kitchen
- Makes a scene?
- Unwritten exam
- No longer deceived by
- Take in less takeout, say
- Gremlin
- Snaky character?

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