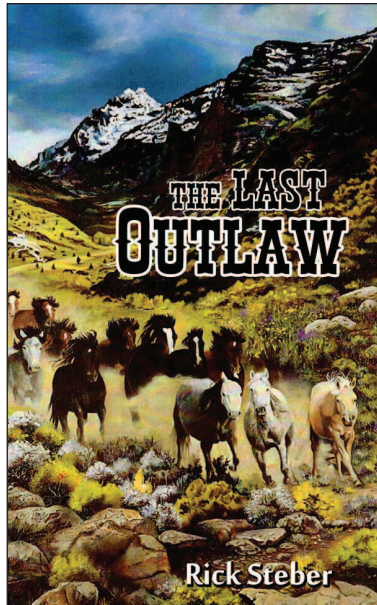


# Real-life outlaw is subject of a new novel

Oregon author Rick Steber releases 'The Last Outlaw'



By Renee Struthers  
East Oregonian

Rick Steber, a prolific Oregon novelist who brings the West to life in his many works covering a variety of subjects, has brought a real-life bad boy to his latest book, "The Last Outlaw."

It's the true story of Tobe Skiens, who grew up in Texas as a cowboy but soon discovered that cattle and horse rustling was a much more lucrative career.

Born in 1882 and doing a man's work on the ranch by the age of 10, he becomes a drifter and moves from ranch to ranch following his perpetually itchy feet. When he rides into Southeastern Oregon in 1906, the wild open spaces provide the perfect playground for his horse-stealing escapades.

When a 17-year-old girl disappeared from her family ranch outside of Burns, Skiens' life of crime takes an ugly turn. Did she run away with him willingly, as Skiens said, or was she the victim of kidnapping and worse?

Newspaper archives from the time covered both the story and a serialized version of one side of the story.

As his fiercely independent lifestyle is slowly eaten away by the continued settlement of Oregon's vast open spaces, Skiens must come to terms with the taming of his beloved West and the idea that he has no place in the new world order. Will he adapt quietly to the new reality, or go out in a blaze of glory?

"The Last Outlaw" is available at

students about the importance of education, developing reading and writing skills, and impressing upon

them the value of saving our history for future generations. To see a list of his books — fic-

tion, nonfiction, poetry and prose — visit his website, ricksteberauthor.com.

Oregon has one of the highest rates of misuse of prescription opioids in the nation.

*The Center for Human Development, Inc., Medications for Addiction Treatment Program (MAT) offers hope and healing to individuals and families suffering from Opioid Use Disorder. Our team of certified drug and alcohol counselors, licensed medical providers, and certified recovery mentors help treat opioid addiction through medication, counseling, and the support of family and friends.*

**If you or a loved one may be addicted to prescription pain meds, treatment is available.**

**CHD** 541-562-HOPE  
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The advertisement shows a bright, modern living room with a large, light-colored sectional sofa, a round coffee table, and side tables. The word 'UPGRADE' is written in large, bold letters across the top of the image. At the bottom, there is a logo for 'NORTHWEST FURNITURE &amp; MATTRESS' with a tree icon, and contact information: '215 Elm Street La Gande • (541) 963-5440' and 'northwestfurnitureandmattress.com'. There are also logos for Visa, MasterCard, and American Express, and a Facebook 'Like Us On' button.