

FUNGI

Continued from Page B1

Granted my mushroom picking self-esteem is a little low right now. I went out for a little bit on a recent afternoon to see if any were out yet, even though I knew they wouldn't be but I don't want to take a chance of missing the short season. I found zero. Zilch. I feel like Punxsutawney Phil the groundhog. I stuck my head out, didn't find any mushrooms and am ducking my tail and going back down in my hole for another week or so.

But despite painting such a doom and gloom picture, surely any day now they are going to start popping up. And when they do, you want to be there. Morels are the tastiest fungi in the world next only to the truffle in England. They are not only my favoritist (is that a word?) outdoor food but probably my favoritist food ever.

Mushroom hunting gives you an excuse to go hiking in

the mountains and if you're up there bear/turkey hunting why not kill two birds with one stone? There are multiple edible mushrooms, but I only feel safe picking two species. One time I thought, you know, this is dumb. I'm up there going to all of the expense and spending time hunting so why not learn to identify all of the edible species? So I found out about a mushroom picking club and started attending their meetings. Unfortunately, I still only feel comfortable picking my original two species.

So to get you started, the first season go with an experienced picker who can train you. If you don't and make a mistake and pick the Angel of Death. ... Let's just say, you and God had better be on pretty good terms because you will be in the judgment room muy pronto.

So where do you find them? I'll tell you some generalities but as soon as I say that, I'll find them in some random spot. When you find them at one elevation everyone will tell

you to move higher after a few days. I do find some by old logs but I also find plenty just randomly throughout the woods. I find a few on the uphill banks on old logging roads.

I don't recommend looking on grassy slopes but one year I found a ton on a grassy hillside in the forest. But haven't found them there since. Usually it's smart to go recheck the same good spots every year. Check out old stump holes, especially in old burns. My old buddy Roger Ross said to look under firs. Problem is, I can hardly differentiate the difference between a pine tree and an aspen.

I've got one spot on an old logging road that isn't a low spot but slightly so. I find them there every year. I find them in semi open areas that are somewhat shaded.

The indisputable world's best scenario is last year's forest fires. They can be magical. I remember at one such old fire I found 17 almost underneath a fallen lodgepole.

The stump holes had a million. The open burn area had a quadrillion. So if you know where old burns are from last summer/fall, hit them. If you don't know of any, go check with the Forest Service.

One year I knew where some prescribed burns had taken place. No one else had hit it yet. I thought that I had scored big time. Unbelievably I didn't find a one there.

If you find some on a steep hillside, check above and below. The spores will flush downhill and I've found a bucketful in one spot in this scenario.

I've never actually done this but one time I was theorizing with a lady at the Forest Service office. We were kicking ideas back and forth and she said she'd always been tempted to check the soil temp but kept forgetting to. I bet she is onto something. I bet their popping up is directly linked to the temp of the soil.

Well, we're out of room. Good luck.

MUSHROOM PERMITS, PICKING ADVICE

Mushroom pickers on national forest land can keep up to one gallon per day, or five gallons in Washington, for personal use, with no permit required to harvest, possess or transport amounts up to those limits.

People who plan to collect more mushrooms, or who want to sell them, will need a commercial permit, which are on sale now at Forest Service offices around the region. Commercial mushroom picking is prohibited in wilderness areas, research areas, or any areas that are currently closed. A mushroom guide is available at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/wallowa-whitman/home>.

In Oregon a pound of fresh morels can sell for over \$50, a dried pound for over \$200, in an upper scale restaurant they might sell for \$200 a plate.

The Forest Service offers advice for collecting mushrooms:

- Use a knife to cut your mushrooms at their base. This reduces disturbance to the soil and can help mushrooms to continue growing in that location.
- Carry your mushrooms in a net bag, which better preserves them and allows spores to spread for future production.
- Give wildlife plenty of space and leave newborns alone.
- Practice "leave no trace" ethics, and please take all your trash home with you.
- Be aware that some forest roads may not be accessible due to mud and snow. Traveling on wet mountain roads and terrain can be dangerous.
- Keep in mind that many wild mushroom varieties are poisonous. When in doubt, leave it out! Always invest in a local mushroom guide.
- Also be sure to tell a friend or family member where you are going; stick to your plan and let them know when you will confirm your safe return.

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HOROSCOPES

by Stella Wilder

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022
YOUR BIRTHDAY by Stella Wilder

Born today, you are quite soft-spoken, and yet in spite of this, everyone knows just exactly who you are and what you stand for, because your personality is always so clearly on display. You are a strong and confident individual, even to the extent that you rarely, if ever, have to announce your intentions or advertise your actions before setting out to do something. You simply do it, knowing full well that everyone will soon know all there is to know about the endeavor because of the way you go about it.

SUNDAY, MAY 1
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- You're sure to be noticed today, but not necessarily for the reason you had anticipated. This may require a total shift in thinking.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Whether you are standing center stage or supporting another from the wings, what you do will surely make a difference today. Think ahead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- You are eager to learn a lesson or two today from someone who is in a position that you all but covet. You can be there yourself very soon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You have more time available to you today than you think, but that doesn't mean you can slow down. In fact, the opposite is true: Speed up!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- The balance with work, rest and play may well be disrupted today by someone who doesn't know what's going on with you. Explain it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- You are in the midst of a change that you don't fully understand -- yet. You may benefit from walking in another's shoes for a while today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- You are missing something that you can't quite identify. Take time to reflect -- and write things down in order to remember minute details.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- You may be feeling somewhat separated from those who share your overall attitude about how things are going. Reach out to them!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- It may be time for you to explain, in no uncertain terms, just what you intend for the next few days or weeks. This will require planning.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- You may not be able to move forward on your own today, but there are those who wish to join you in your efforts, and that can work wonders.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) -- How you organize your thinking will make a big difference today and prepare you to take a stand when it's no longer an option to be silent.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- You can surely excel today, but you'll want to explore a few new options as well -- which may limit your progress as you experiment a little.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Go at an easy gait
 - River duck
 - Form 1040 sender
 - Island near Corsica
 - Earthenware pot
 - choy
 - Fast warship
 - O.T. priest
 - Cartoon shriek
 - Siren
 - Says for sure
 - Zen riddle
 - Count (on)
 - Corn serving
 - Flower container
 - Daniel Dae —
 - Deli bread
 - High note
 - Gin flavoring
 - Sticky stuff
 - Grad-school exam
 - Mr. Perot
 - Unseals
 - Faulty
 - Cabin
 - Press for payment
 - Step-by-step solving procedure
 - Rope-a-dope boxer
 - -Aid drink mixes
 - Luigi's farewell
 - Encountered
 - Advice giver
 - Barbershop sound
- DOWN**
- Was in charge of
 - Flamenco shout
 - "This Old House" network
 - Luncheonette
 - Grabbed

Answer to Previous Puzzle

E	D	G	E	B	R	A	N	Q	U	E
K	I	E	V	R	A	J	A	T	R	Y
E	M	M	A	I	N	S	T	I	L	E
				D	O	C	K	A	U	
B	A	L	E	R	A	L	C	O	V	E
U	T	A	B	E	T	A	K	H	A	N
I	R	K	S	P	A	H	S	A	L	T
L	I	E	U	I	N	S	T	R	U	E
T	A	R	M	A	C	S	T	E	E	R
		A	R	Y	I	P	E			
D	R	A	C	O	U	L	R	O	A	R
A	I	M	M	E	R	E	S	U	F	I
P	O	P	A	N	T	S	E	T	T	A

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- English cathedral town
- Andy Capp's quaff
- Cocoon dweller
- Alpine goat
- Butler, to Gable
- Fruit peel
- Legal matter
- Itemized list of mdse.
- Places of refuge
- Conceal
- A Muppet
- Floors for good
- Hydrox rival
- Work units
- North-forty unit
- Connery of 007 fame
- Underwater shockers
- Hosp. areas
- Branch of physics
- Port near Kyoto
- Not just my
- Bede or Ant
- Pack animal
- Put a sock —
- Sainted
- Underhand throw
- Swabbie
- Baking pan
- "Bali —"
- Broom companion

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
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42	43	44					45					
46					47	48	49			50	51	52
53					54					55		
56					57					58		

103 Announcements

PULL TABS ACCEPTED
AT THE FOLLOWING BAKER CITY LOCATIONS

- Baker City Herald
- Dollar Tree
- Black's Distributing
- Ryder Bros
- VFW
- Baker Elk's Lodge
- Main Event
- Lefty's Tap House
- Baker City Fire Dept.
- Haines Sell-Rite
- Idle Hour
- Salvation Army

104 Community Calendar

LA GRANDE LIONS CLUB
Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of each month @ 12 PM
Union County Senior Center
1504 N. Albany St., La Grande

PINOCHLE
Fridays at 6:30 p.m.
Senior Center
2810 Cedar St., Baker City
Public is welcome

Don't give it away — sell it! Affordable person-to-person ads reach thousands of readers. Cash in today!

104 Community Calendar

VFW POST 460
Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm.
Corner of Main at Birch in Union

Baker County United "freedom rallies"
3rd Thursday each month 6 p.m. at the Sunridge 1 Sunridge Lane.
The public is invited

KEY OF DAVID
Starting May 7th - 2PM
Baker County Library
Taught by:
Gary Robinson & Blaine McKnight

Kiwanis Club of Baker City
Tuesday at 12:00 PM
Sunridge Inn Restaurant
1 Sunridge Lane
For more information call: (541) 523-6027

ROTARY CLUB of Baker City
Meets every Monday
Noon - 1 PM
Baker Towers Meeting Room

POWDER RIVER SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
Meets 1st Tuesday of every month
8th & Broadway, Baker City
6 PM - Pistolettes
7 PM - Regular Membership

114 Group Meetings

AA MEETINGS - La Grande
Wednesday Nights, 7-8:15pm.
Fort Union Grange Hall, corner of McAlister & Gekeler Lanes. For more info, call 541-786-1222

114 Group Meetings

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
541-805-2229
neo-na.org

AL-ANON
Keep Coming Back Family Group
Mondays, 7 pm
at NKWest, 1208 Adams, La Grande, OR

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
Calvary Baptist Church
Third & Broadway
Baker City, OR
EVERY THURSDAY
6:15 - 8:00 PM

DO YOU HAVE....HURTS, HABITS and/or HANG UPS?
12 Step Biblical Support
Harvest Church
3720 Birch St. Baker City
Thurs., 6:30 - 8:30 PM

LA GRANDE GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
Every Friday Night @ 5pm, 2107 Gekeler Ln, LG, Church of Christ basement. For more info please call 971-219-8411

Someone's drinking a problem?
AL-ANON Meetings are available by phone
Info for Baker City Meetings
Call: 541-239-7323

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
Goin' Straight Group
Meetings:
Mon., Tues. Thurs. & Fri.
Start at 8 PM
Episcopal Church Basement
2177 1st Street, Baker City

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
Would you like to stop compulsive eating?
For Information Call
541-523-5128
Leave a Message
Email: ecapoa@live.com

PEOPLE with PARKINSON'S
Caregivers, Family, Friends
SUPPORT GROUP
Contact Judith at
208-855-9199
Meetings resume @GRH when restrictions ease.

BAKER COUNTY AA MEETINGS BAKER CITY

MONDAYS
Survivor's Group
12 - 1:00 pm
Baker Presbyterian Church
1995 4th St.
(4th & Court, Side Door)

WEDNESDAYS
Survivor's Group
12:05 pm
Baker Presbyterian Church
1995 4th St.
(4th & Court, Side Door)

THURSDAYS
Survivor's Group
12:00 pm
Baker Presbyterian Church
1995 4th St.
(4th & Court, Side Door)

SATURDAYS
As Bill Sees It Group
10:00 am 2970 Walnut
(Corner of "D" & Grove St.)
Grove Apts. Community Rm

SUNDAYS
Been There Done That
5:30 pm
Grove Apartments
Community Room
2970 Walnut Street

Questions call AA Hotline:
541-624-5117
www.oregonaadistrict29.org

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