



Long Creek citizens and local firefighters stationed at the nearby camp filled Long Creek School cafeteria for a potluck lunch and historical presentation on the Porter family during the 6th annual Founder's Day Celebration.

Eagle photos/Cheryl Hoefler

Long Creek honors its past

By Cheryl Hoefler
Blue Mountain Eagle

LONG CREEK – Appreciating freedom and looking to the future sometimes means a reverent nod to the past.

The community of Long Creek marked the Fourth of July with its 6th annual Founder's Day Celebration. The event included a potluck feast at noon, followed by a historical presentation on the pioneering Porter family.

The slideshow, led by Long Creek mayor Don Porter and his wife, Denise, outlined

the Porter lineage, beginning with Florence (Burnside) and Allen Porter, who married on July 1, 1888, and included several anecdotes of the family's early days in the Long Creek area.

Ed Studtmann cooked up a bounty of burgers and hot dogs, and also offered a blessing over the Independence Day meal.

About 40 people filled the Long Creek School cafeteria for the event – mostly citizens, plus several firefighters stationed at the Long Creek fire camp



A crowd of about 40 from the Long Creek area, both citizens and firefighters from the nearby camp, enjoyed a bountiful potluck prior to the historical presentation.

over the holiday weekend. The event was sponsored by the Long Creek Historical Society.

EAGLE ON VACATION



Contributed photo

Serena Pace, left, and Danielle Goldblatt took the Eagle on vacation during a recent trip to Silverwood Theme Park in Athol, Idaho.

Take a photo with the Eagle (print or mobile editions) while on vacation, and email it to cheryl@bmeagle.com or bring it to the Eagle office.

ENGAGEMENT

Norland – Palmer

Brandon Norland and Samantha Palmer, both of Pendleton, announce their engagement and plans to marry.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Sam Palmer of John Day and the late Roni Russell. Her grandparents are Dorothy Palmer of John Day, and Don and Sharon Miller of Mt. Vernon. She is a 2013 graduate of Grant Union Junior-Senior High School in John Day, and a 2015 graduate of Blue Mountain Community College. She is employed by Interpath Labs in Pendleton, while pursuing a nursing degree.

The prospective groom is the son of Gene and Bonnie Norland of Mt. Vernon. A 2013 graduate of Grant Union, and a 2015 graduate of Blue Mountain Community College, he works as a diesel mechanic for Woodpecker Trucking in Pendleton.

The couple will be married Saturday, July 18, at Living Word Christian Center in Mt. Vernon.



MEETING NOTICE

NORTH & MIDDLE FORK JOHN DAY RIVER AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN

The Fourth Meeting for the Biennial Review of the North & Middle Fork John Day River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan will be held on Tuesday, July 28th, 2015 at 5:00pm at the Monument Senior Center at 269 Main Street in Monument.

Contact Steve Ussery at 541-934-2141 with any questions.

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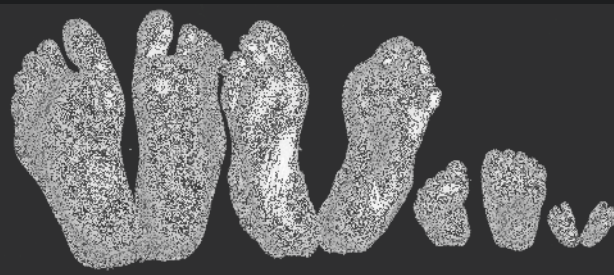
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"The Brides Wore Spurs" by Barry Bonner

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Each month one local educator will be highlighted in the Blue Mountain Eagle and will receive a \$50 gift certificate from Doug's Repair. Educator of the Year will receive \$1,000 to be donated to school of their choice.

Nominate your Local Hero by picking up a nomination form at the Blue Mountain Eagle or Doug's Repair, or download a copy from the Blue Mountain Eagle's website - www.bluemountaineagle.com.



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OBITUARIES

Robert C. Riddell

April 9, 1920 – July 12, 2015

Robert C. Riddell, 95, died July 12 at Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City. An open house memorial gathering will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 26, at 230 S.E. Cottonwood in Mt. Vernon.

Mr. Riddell was born April 9, 1920, in Lincoln, Neb., and moved with his family to Phoenix, Ariz., at age 4.

His father was a successful contractor, but lost their home and business in the Great Depression.

For \$800, the family bought a 10-acre alfalfa farm, where he helped irrigate and tended the cow and chickens.

He traded his bicycle for a horse, and loved riding bareback in the Arizona desert. He read Westerns and taught himself to play the guitar.

During high school, his family moved to the San Carlos Indian Reservation, where his father took a Civilian Conservation Corps job. He came to love the Apache people.

In 1939, he graduated from Globe High School, and in 1941, from Phoenix College with an associate's degree in aeronautical science.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942, and was accepted into the Air Force Reserve Corps flight instructor training program. He graduated in 1943, with a commercial pilot flight instructor and instrument ratings. He was assigned as a senior flight instructor for the Army Air Force Aviation Cadets at Thunderbird Field in Phoenix, training pilots for World War II.

After his discharge in 1946, he became assistant manager and chief pilot at Brackett Field in La Verne, Calif. He logged in 6,000 hours of military and commercial flights.

He spent his 20-year civil service career under the Department of Defense as an inspector and later as quality control representative, helping administer defense, missile and NASA contracts that included production of the Saturn V rock, Apollo 8 and other NASA programs. In 1967, he was named "Man of the Year" for the Dept. of Defense Contract Administration Service District, Pasadena, Calif.

He loved building things, and constructed two homes himself. He enjoyed golf and deep sea fishing, and exploring the Sacramento River delta with his wife, Ruth, in their cabin cruiser.

He was a member of the American Society for Quality Control, Chino Valley Masonic Lodge, American Legion of Ontario, Calif., and First Christian Church.

He and his wife, college sweetheart Katherine Mauzey, had two children, Ron (Barbara) Riddell of Columbus, Ohio, and Susan (Norm) Fowle of Mt. Vernon; grandson, Matt (Michelle) Riddell of La Verne, and great-granddaughter, Kate.

With his second wife, Ruth McWilliam, he had four step-children, Dana (Frank) Matejka, David (Kimberly) McWilliam, Susan Furlow and Danny McWilliam; and numerous grandchildren and stepgrandchildren, all of Southern California.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion or Salvation Army through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

Eric Leroy Bygness

Jan. 31, 1937 – June 8, 2015

Eric Leroy Bygness, 78, formerly of John Day, died June 8, 2015, at his home in Pahrump, Nev., surrounded by family and hospice care. Private family celebration of life and graveside services will be held later.

Mr. Bygness was born Jan. 31, 1937, in Eagle Grove, Iowa, to Jeffrey Bygness and Veva May Gardner.

He was a veteran, serving in the U.S. Air Force. He operated and repaired heavy equipment for the Oregon Highway Department for over 30 years.

He enjoyed gardening, working on riding lawn tractors and anything with an engine.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Zerkle-Bygness; daughters Erica (Eric) Palmrose and Jennifer Bygness; grandson, Tyler Palmrose; granddaughter Chloe Snow Smith; four stepchildren, 13 step-grandchildren; and brothers and sisters in Iowa.

Preceding him in death are two brothers, Vernon and Jerry Bygness.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to L.D.S. Homestead Ward Mission Fund, PO Box 5282, Pahrump, NV 89041.

Austin Drewett

Austin Drewett, 90, died July 7 at his Mt. Vernon home. Services are pending.

Arrangements are under the care of Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.



WEATHER FORECAST

Day	Forecast	Temperature
Wednesday	Sunny	85/50
Thursday	Sunny	83/47
Friday	Slight chance of T-storms	80/50
Saturday	Slight chance of T-storms	85/54
Sunday	Sunny	90/54
Monday	Sunny	91/46
Tuesday	Chance of a T-storm	86/51

LAST WEEK

	JULY 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
John Day	95/68	92/56	83/62	85/63	74/61	76/56	74/53
Sheep Rock	102/70	101/60	102/68	93/66	93/62	86/57	81/58

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