



Contributed photos/Haley Hueckman  
**Above:** Ashley Grizzafii of Dallas, Sara Kosozik of Boise), Haley Hueckman of John Day and Jessica Newell of Arizona enjoy a welcome break at Strawberry Falls. **Left:** Hueckman and Newell check out the view above Strawberry Lake.



# TIPS

Continued from Page C2

bags and cookware. Another important tip is packing your backpack, distributing weight onto your hips and not your shoulders. ALWAYS let someone know where you'll be and an estimated time of when you'll be done.

**Q.** Not all trails are created equally; they vary greatly in length and difficulty. What are some things hikers of all abilities should look for when deciding on a trail?

**A.** Hikers should always carry a map, and know how to read it. Look for reliable water sources, and trails that have been maintained. Not all trails are routinely maintained and can sometimes be difficult to cross. Injury is always a possibility. The more you hike, the more weight you should be able to carry on your trip. Prepare to carry your food, shelter and water.

**Q.** Grant County has an abundance of trails winding through breathtaking scenery. How can a person find out where they are?

**A.** The best place to get information on trails is the Forest Service – either at the Supervisors office in John Day or the Prairie City Ranger District. They will have maps there. You can get forest maps or if you plan on being in the wilderness, they offer wilderness maps. It's imperative, if you're headed to the wilderness, to learn and know what wilderness ethics are.

**Q.** How long have you been hiking and how did you first get interested?

**A.** I've been going on day hikes for as long as I can remember. I grew up near the Strawberries and can remember being on the trail with my family. Backpacking never peaked my interest until college where I met my friend Jessica, who introduced me to the idea of sleeping on the trail. In the summers, I worked for the Forest Service and learned an infinite amount about our forest. My first trips were in the Strawberry Wilderness, and I soon found out I loved to hike where no one could drive.

**Q.** Got any lessons to share with others?

**A.** Good hiking shoes and water. These two things are key in a safe and comfortable hike, short or long. And gummy worms. I always bring gummy worms for the trail.

**Q.** What's your favorite local day hike? And your

favorite overnight, longer hike?

**A.** One of my favorite day hikes is the Pine Creek Trail, up to Baldy Mountain. For a backpacking trip, start at the Strawberry Campground, then to Slide Lake for the night, over to High Lake, to the summit of Strawberry Mountain and then back down to the Strawberry Camp trailhead.

**Q.** Any memorable experiences?

**A.** One of my more memorable moments hiking was at Little Strawberry Lake. It's a popular spot to see mountain goats. However, on this particular morning, I spotted 12. I've never seen that many up there.

*When not out on the trail, home base for Haley Hueckman, and her cat, Stella, is John Day.*

**Blue Mt. MINI MARKET**  
 Open 7 Days a week, 6am-9pm  
 150 Mtn. Blvd., Mt Vernon • 541-932-4477

Plenty of snacks, beverages and gas. Stock up before you head out of town!

Fill up with the good stuff, non-ethanol premium.

**T & H AUTOMOTIVE**

**FREE** Loaner Car Deductible Assistance Available

Towing & Precision Auto Body Repair

FREE ESTIMATES • COLLISION REPAIR • AUTO GLASS

George Hamsher, Manager  
 200 E Main, John Day • 541-575-0358 • 541-575-0359  
 Cell 541-792-0366 • tandhautomotive@gmail.com

**SKEINS**

- Fine Yarns & Fibers
- Knitting, Spinning, Weaving & Crochet Supplies
- Books, Buttons & Etc.

Tues. - Fri. 10 am - 5:30 pm • Sat. 10 - 4 pm  
 (across from library) 516 S. Canyon Blvd.  
 John Day • 541/575-KNIT  
 skeins@centurytel.net

**OXBOW TRADE CO.**  
 Antiques & More

wagons@oxbowwagonsandcoaches.com  
 www.oxbowwagonsandcoaches.com

Hwy. 395 South,  
 Canyon City, OR  
 541-575-2911

Fun for the entire family!

- Lodge
- Kitchen & Cook
- 10 Cabins (holds 10 guests each)
- 2-Bath houses
- Piano & Games

**YOUTH CAMP • REUNIONS • WEDDINGS**

Lake Creek Youth Camp  
 www.lakecreekcamp.com  
 541-575-2831

**Ed's FastBreak** Convenience Stores  
 For your convenience TWO GREAT LOCATIONS

**Shell** COMMERCIAL FUELING

Fuels • Lubes • Propane • Service • Shell Stations

**ED'S FAST BREAK**  
 W. Hwy. 26, John Day • 541-575-2585

**ED'S FAST BREAK**  
 At the Y in Canyon City • 541-575-1942

**ASK FOR MORE!**

**pepsi**

John Day: (541) 575-1594 • Pendleton: 1-800-344-9230