

FUN

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"I wasn't quite sure what I was doing the first time," she said.

Unlike past years, when parents needed to sign up in advance, this year participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Parents also need to stay with their children while they work on their gingerbread houses.

Smith said she starts buying candy - for the house embellishments - in bulk after Halloween. She and her husband, Tom, spent last weekend organizing and bagging it at Quilts and Beyond in Prairie City, where Smith works.

Then, for several days before to the event, she's in her home kitchen, preparing and baking all the gingerbread. Smith said she goes through about five batches of dough a day during that time, with each batch making about two houses.

The icing "glue" is made from scratch, too, which she and her husband will whip up the night before at the Teen Center, along with all the other last-minute preparations. They will be there until the late hours getting everything organized and setting up the stations.

Why does she do all this? It's all for the kids, she said.

"I just thought the kids in the community needed something to do and get them out and about during Christmas on the Prairie," Smith said.



Anna Smith's kitchen in Prairie City is "gingerbread central" this week, preparing gingerbread house sections for the children's activity this Saturday, Nov. 21, at Christmas on the Prairie.

Photos by Kim Kell/The Eagle

She said she enjoys giving back to the community, adding, "I'll do anything to help when it's needed."

The Smiths have lived in Prairie City for 10 years, and 10 years in John Day before that. They have six children between them and two grandchildren. And yes, they both get their own gingerbread houses to build each year, too.

Gingerbread fever has spread through Prairie City this year, Smith said. Businesses in town will have gingerbread houses on display, and children will get to vote

ent bearing on the case. Wolves were listed under the state Endangered Species Act at the time of the shooting; the ODFW Commission on Nov. 9 removed wolves from the state list. Regardless, they remained on the federal endangered species list in the western two-thirds of the state. The wolf was identified as OR-22, a male that has worn a GPS tracking collar since October 2013 and dispersed from the Umatilla Pack in February 2015. He was in Malheur County for awhile, then traveled into Grant County.

Wildlife biologists don't believe he had a mate of pups. Young or sub-dominant wolves often leave their home packs to establish their own territory and find mates. OR-22 was the third Oregon wolf known to have died since August, when the Sled Springs pair in Northeast Oregon were found dead of unknown cause. The state now has a minimum of 82 wolves.



Gingerbread pieces await children's imaginations to transform them into decorative and delicious houses.

on their favorite throughout the day during Christmas on the Prairie. The one receiving the most votes will receive a "children's favorite" certificate.

The houses will be

auctioned off during the tree-lighting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. that evening, across from City Hall. The proceeds will benefit Talents and Treasures of Prairie City, organizers of Christmas on the Prairie.



Door frames? Gate posts? How these candy canes are used is up to the imagination of the young gingerbread house builders at Christmas on the Prairie.



Counted and bagged, gumdrops are ready for young gingerbread house builders.

WOLF

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arraigned Dec. 2 in Grant County Justice Court in Canyon City.

The shooting happened in Grant County; the neighboring Harney County district attorney handled it as a courtesy because his Grant County counterpart was acquainted with the hunter's family and wanted to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

The incident happened Oct. 6, when Witty voluntarily notified the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon State Police that he'd shot a wolf while hunting coyotes on private property south of Prairie City. Police recovered a wolf's remains on the property.

Oregon's action to remove wolves from the state endangered species list has no appar-

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ATTENTION GRANT COUNTY VETERANS:

Did you know Grant County Veterans Services Officer is available to assist YOU in applying for all VA benefits you may be entitled to? See your Grant County Veteran Services Officer today for more information, located at Grant County Court House.

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GRANT COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT SURPLUS SALE

Bids MUST be RECEIVED AT COUNTY COURT on Dec. 2, by 9:00 a.m. to be accepted.
Bid Opening: Dec. 2, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	MIN. BID
1	5x7' Flat Bottom Culvert (used), 7' long	\$40
2	3 pcs Flat Bottom Culvert (used), 5'-6' x various lengths, 27' total	\$150
3	1992 Viking Truck Snowplow, 11.5 wide	\$75
4	1994 Frink Truck Snowplow, 11.5 wide	\$75
5	2 Tool Boxes, 1 wood 6'x2', 1 metal 2'x2'	\$20
6	4 Pickup Tool Boxes (all metal), 5' long x 1' wide/deep	\$25
7	8 Wood Bridge Decking, 19' x various lengths	\$175
8	8 pcs Treated Timbers of various lengths	\$20
9	1994 Ford 250 pickup (141,374 mi.)	\$800
10	2 pcs 30"x50" Culvert (used), (1) 19' long, (1) 8' long	\$50

Items may be viewed at the Road Department, 27941 Lower Yard Road, John Day OR between the hours of 7:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. For further information, call (541) 575-0138.

Sealed bids with Lot No. identified on the envelope must be received by the Grant County Court office, 201 S. Humbolt, No. 280, Canyon City OR no later than 9:00 am, December 2, 2015.

Grant County Road Department will contact the successful bidder for each item. If you have questions regarding the results, call the Road Department at 541.575.0138.

**All sales are final.

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Hello Grant County, Where has this year gone? Seems like just yesterday that we started 2015.

I am excited to announce that your Chamber of Commerce is alive and well, not only financially, but we have a proactive executive board and a great group of volunteers who keep the doors open and the office manned daily.

Our annual installation and volunteer appreciation event was held at the golf course with about 80 folks attending. We honored our members and volunteers and paid a special tribute to a surprised guest, Phil Gray, who has been instrumental in promoting the best interests of Grant County for over 28 years through his radio station KJDY. A decision was made to donate the proceeds from our annual Chamber of Commerce fundraiser to the fire victims assistance fund and we are happy to report that we were able to give \$7500. Like so many of the other fine folks in Grant County have stated, our hearts and prayers go out to all of you who were affected by the fire.

We had a Saturday workday at the Chamber building where we stained and painted the exterior of the building. Thank you to the members who showed up to help and a special thank you to all of the volunteers from the Nazarene Church who assisted us. We wouldn't have been able to complete it in one day without all of their help.

The Grant County Greenback Program is progressing well and with the holiday season upon us, this is a good way to support our local economy. Greenbacks make good bonuses or gifts for your employees, friends and relatives, and can be spent like normal dollars at participating Chamber businesses. Greenbacks can be purchased at the Chamber office.

We are also looking for someone to donate a large Christmas tree for the front of the Chamber office. If you have one that you want to donate, please give us a call.

Our open meeting this month will be held at noon on Thursday, Nov. 19 at the Outpost. Our guest speaker will be Tom Insko, the new president of Eastern Oregon University. We would love to have a large attendance to welcome Tom to Grant County.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jerry Franklin, President
Grant County Chamber of Commerce

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