

# Red Flag Day program aims to prevent wildfires

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Red Flag Day program, which provides alerts to participating businesses when red flag warnings have been issued by the National Weather Service, is being introduced in Grant County.

A Red Flag Warning is a fire notice based on critical weather and fuel conditions that are likely to support fire activity and growth. The Red Flag Day program is voluntary and will be implemented by local agencies and businesses interested in the program, who will display red flags at their offices when the warnings are issued.

The program will begin in the John Day Valley and expand into the rest of the valley if it appears to be successful.

The public can help reduce fire risk on Red Flag Warning days by postponing chainsaw and off-road vehicle use until fire danger has passed.

The program is being promoted by the Grant Harney Fire Prevention Cooperative, an interagency fire prevention organization that includes the Oregon Department of Forestry, the U.S. Forest Service, the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office, the Grant County Fire Defense Board and the Grant County Firewise program.

Homeowners are encouraged to prepare their homes in advance by using sound Firewise principles.

For more information, visit [firewise.org](http://firewise.org) and [livingwithwildfire.com](http://livingwithwildfire.com) or call Irene Jerome at 541-575-2210.



Volunteer businesses participating in Grant County's new Red Flag Day program will display red flags at their offices when Red Flag Warning fire notices are issued by the National Weather Service.

## OBITUARIES

**Raymond L. Brooks**  
July 23, 1946 - Aug. 26, 2016

Raymond L. Brooks, 70, of Rosalia, Washington, died Aug. 26, 2016, at home.

Brooks was born July 23, 1946, in Council, Idaho, to James and Lois (Prest) Brooks. The family moved to Bates when he was a young boy. He graduated from Prairie City High School in 1964.

Brooks entered the U.S. Navy and served during the Vietnam War, spending time on the Oak Hill LSD-7 and Ticonderoga. He married Patsy Hutchison on May 27, 1966, in Bates. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1977.

The couple moved to San Diego, California, where he began his career as a diesel mechanic in the shipyards. During the 1980s, Raymond and his family lived in Mt. Vernon, where he worked at Malheur Lumber Company in John Day. In 1993, Raymond took a job at Fairbanks Morse in Washington where he worked until his retirement in 2003.

Brooks was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed working on anything mechanical, and was always willing to help a neighbor, friend or family. He truly enjoyed the outdoors, especially camping with his family in the Blue Mountains. He was a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

He is survived by his wife, Patsy Brooks, of Rosalia; son Neil Brooks and daughter-in-law Heidi Brooks of Redmond; daughter Dawn Polley and son-in-law Bruce Polley of Rosalia; daughter Tia Barrieta and son-in-law Joe Barrieta of John Day; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Freeman and Leroy Brooks.

He will be laid to rest at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake, Washington. Bruning Funeral Home of Colfax, Washington, is caring for the family. Online condolences may be sent to [bruningfuneralhome.com](http://bruningfuneralhome.com).



## Hubert Dean Elliott

Hubert Dean Elliott, 87, of Canyon City passed away Friday, Sept. 2, at his home. Services are pending at this time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ranch and Rodeo Museum, Grant County Search and Rescue or Blue Mountain Hospice through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To leave a condolence, visit [driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://driskillmemorialchapel.com).

## About Obituaries

News obituaries are a free service of the Blue Mountain Eagle. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries submitted to the Eagle with incorrect information may be corrected and republished as paid notices. Send obituaries by e-mail, [cheryl@bmeagle.com](mailto:cheryl@bmeagle.com); fax, 541-575-1244; or mail, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-575-0710.

## CLARIFICATION

In last week's story about testing lead in school water, "PC School shuts off water to lead-ridden fountains," the Eagle cited the Environmental Protection Agency's 0.15 micrograms per liter (15 parts per billion) action level, which is correct but does not apply to the individual outlet tests schools perform.

The EPA recommends replacing an outlet, such as a fountain, if the level exceeds .02 mcg/L (20 parts per billion). As the story mentions, fountains exceeding the limit in Prairie City were shut off.

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INFORMATION LEADING TO CONVICTION OF TRESPASSERS AND/OR POACHERS ON SILVIES VALLEY RANCH

**\$2,500<sup>00</sup> REWARD**

A reward we're anxious to pay. Again last year, several nice mule deer bucks and elk were killed and left to rot on our ranch – and that's only what we found. Several poachers were caught and prosecuted. Please help us catch trespassers and poachers who have no respect for private property rights and who give all hunters a bad name. If you legally wound an animal that comes onto any of our property, please come to ranch headquarters at Bridge Creek and we will help you find and clean it at no charge. Otherwise, do not go onto our property unless accompanied by a Silvies Valley Ranch team member. We will press charges, sue for damages, and are actively patrolling our property with ATVs, by horseback, and videocams.

**CALL** Sheriff Glenn Palmer 541-575-1131  
Sheriff Dave Ward 541-573-6156  
Colby Marshall 541-573-5150 x110

Silvies, Oregon [www.silviesvalleyranch.com](http://www.silviesvalleyranch.com) 1-800-SILVIES

## LAST WEEK'S TEMPS

JOHN DAY	H/I/O
TUESDAY .....	83/58
WEDNESDAY .....	87/51
THURSDAY .....	78/50
FRIDAY .....	71/51
SATURDAY .....	72/44
SUNDAY .....	70/44
MONDAY .....	72/40

## 24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; [TRIPCHECK.COM](http://TRIPCHECK.COM)  
[WWW.BLUEMOUNTAINEAGLE.COM/INFO](http://WWW.BLUEMOUNTAINEAGLE.COM/INFO)

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY  
162.500 MHz

## WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT. 7-13

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Pleasant and warmer	Mostly sunny and delightful	Sunny and delightful	Plenty of sun	Sunshine and not as warm	Plenty of sun	Sunny and warmer
<b>75</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>48</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>