



Contributed photo

**Siblings Merle Boehlke and Vernita Jordan are the grand marshals of the 2018 Painted Hills Festival Sept. 1 in Mitchell. Born to Clarence and Hattie Boehlke, they were raised in Paulina and moved to Mitchell in 1960, both graduating from Mitchell High School.**

## Painted Hills Festival kicks off Labor Day Weekend in Mitchell

Blue Mountain Eagle

Now in it’s 23rd year, the annual Painted Hills Festival in Mitchell boasts two music and entertainment stages, a half marathon, 10K and 5K fun-runs, grand parade, quilt and art show, vendors, food, a bounce house with water slide and water trough races.

The festival, hosted in downtown Mitchell (48 miles east of Prineville on Highway 26), celebrates the majestic beauty of one of Oregon’s seven wonders, the Painted Hills National Monument.

The day begins at 7 a.m. with the half marathon, 10K and 5K run shuttle bus leaving Spoke’n Hostel on the west edge of town. Half marathon runners begin their journey over rugged back country roads (with several water support stations) at 7:30 a.m. 10K and 5K runs stagger start as the shuttle bus moves closer to town. Registration for the run can be done online at [paintedhillshalf.com](http://paintedhillshalf.com)

Festivities, music and fun start as runners make their way to the finish line in the heart of downtown Mitchell. Two performance

stages in town — one at the City Park and one at Tiger Town Brewing Company — host entertainment including music, puppet shows, square dancers and the annual pie auction.

The Grand Parade begins at 11:30 a.m. with grand marshals Vernita Jordan and Merle Boehlke leading the way. The parade traditionally makes the best of the short route by passing through town twice for good measure.

A quilt and art show fill the upstairs of the Mitchell Community Center on Nelson Street.

At 3:30 p.m., the road will be cleared for the inaugural Water Trough Races, an unorthodox gravity powered race where contestants must create a rolling water trough with steering and brakes, for a low speed race down Main Street.

Parking is available at the Mitchell School Gymnasium parking lot on High Street with hourly shuttles to downtown.

Schedule of performances, events, and other details about the free, family friendly Painted Hills Festival can be found at [paintedhillsfestival.com](http://paintedhillsfestival.com).

## Chip sealing planned on Highway 19

### 28-mile project spans from Spray to Highway 26

Blue Mountain Eagle

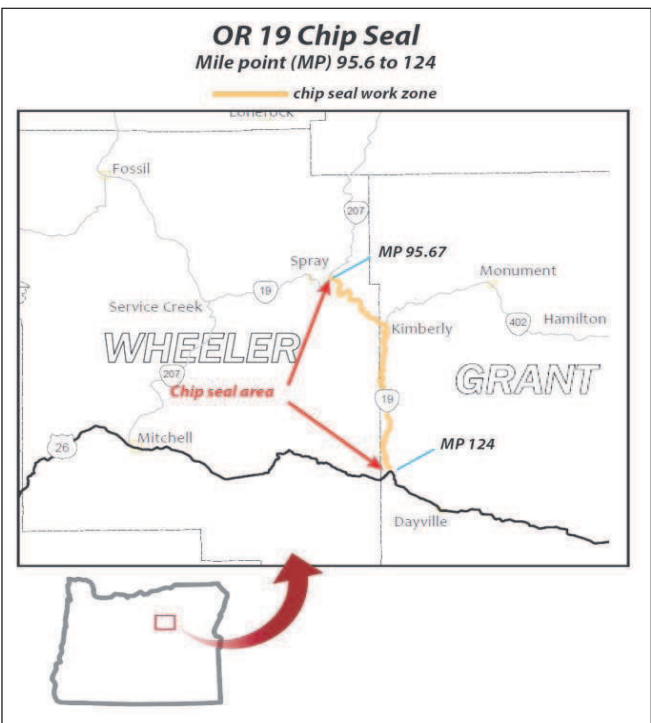
The Oregon Department of Transportation is chip sealing a 28.3-mile-long section of the John Day Highway (OR 19) in Wheeler and Grant counties. The project will extend from the junction of Highway 207 (mile point 95.67, east of Spray) to the junction of Highway 26 (mile point 124, west of Dayville).

This highway preservation work began Monday and is scheduled to take about

two weeks to complete. Travelers can expect up to 20-minute delays, reduced speeds, loose rock on the roadway, day and night-time flaggers and pilot cars directing single-lane traffic through the work zones.

ODOT is asking highway users to keep farm equipment off the impacted highway sections during and up to two days after the chip seal operations.

To prevent chip rock adhesion problems due to animal waste on the roadway, ranchers are requested to contact ODOT Assistant District Manager Paul Howland at 541-278-6044 to advise of any plans to move livestock on impacted highway sections during this operation.



## OBITUARIES

**Mary Ella Neal**  
*March 9, 1945 - Aug. 12, 2018*

Mary Ella Neal, 73, of Kimberly passed away on Sunday, Aug. 12, at her residence. A graveside service was held at 12 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Monument Cemetery in Monument, Oregon, with Mitch Mund officiating.

Mary Ella (Hinton) Neal was born on March 9, 1945, in Prairie City, Oregon, to Boyd and May DeEtt (Throop) Hinton. She attended Monument High School. On June 25, 1961, Mary Ella married Lewis “Bill” Neal in John Day, Oregon.

Her main occupation was being a homemaker, mother and wife. She enjoyed fishing, gardening, baking, camping, canning and spending time with family. Her greatest accomplishments are being a 4-H leader, wife, mother and grandmother.

Mary Ella is survived by her husband, Bill Neal, and daughter Terry Neal-Cade, both of Kimberly, Oregon. She is also survived by five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Boyd and May DeEtt Hinton; sons William “Buddy” and Danny Neal; and sister Sharon McKinnon.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Monument Senior Center through Driskill Memorial Chapel at 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To offer condolences to her family, visit [driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://driskillmemorialchapel.com).



**Bonnie Jean (Farley) Gause**  
*July 17, 1933 - Aug. 12, 2018*

Bonnie Jean (Farley) Gause was born in Parma, Idaho, on July 17, 1933, to Frank and Grace (Bale) Farley. She passed away Aug. 12 in Mt. Vernon, Oregon.

Bonnie married Philip Gause and they celebrated 64 years of marriage before he passed away in 2016. Bonnie was raised in New Plymouth, Idaho, with seven brothers and one sister. After she and Phil married they traveled with his Navy career and in the late ’50s settled in Lakewood, Washington, where they raised their six children. In Lakewood Bonnie also began a career in nursing that lasted many years.

In 2007 Phil and Bonnie moved to Mt. Vernon, Oregon, where they enjoyed a relaxing retirement and Bonnie found a new love in painting. She made many special friendships in the painting group and she enjoyed sharing her award-winning paintings with family and friends.

Bonnie is survived by her six children, Joan Budd (Eldon) of Virginia, Kathy Price, Lorrie Perez (Carlos), Ann Zawerucha and George Gause (Jaye), all of Washington, and Harry Gause of Mexico; 11 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; brother Alva Farley (Phyllis); along with her special sisters-in-law and many very loved nieces and nephews.

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



**Catherine ‘Cathy’ Leona Wernlund**  
*April 21, 1948 - Aug. 8, 2018*

Catherine “Cathy” Leona Wernlund, 70, of La Grande passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 8, at her residence.

Cathy was born on April 21, 1948, in Willits, California, to James and Olive (Criger) Morgan. She resided in Willits, California; Alturas, California; Prairie City; Long Creek; Reith; Grand Junction, Colorado; Collbran, Colorado; and La Grande. She attended schools in Willits, California, Prairie City and Long Creek.

Cathy was a devoted mother to four children. She enjoyed crocheting, sewing, flower gardening, canning, journaling, caring for her mother and, most of all, her family.

Cathy is survived by her children, Don Cutright (Jenny) of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, Wendy Wernlund of Grand Junction, Colorado, Jeff Wernlund of Reith and Melissa Neal (Scott) of Benton City, Washington; sister Melody McKinley (Roger) of Prairie City; and brother Harvey Morgan (Marsha) of Summerville; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and seven nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Olive; sister Sonja Johns; brother John Morgan Sr.; and ex-husband and friend John Wernlund.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [lovelandfuneralchapel.com](http://lovelandfuneralchapel.com).

**Shirley Mae ‘Mickey’ Boethin**  
*Sept. 14, 1931 - Aug. 7, 2018*

Shirley Mae “Mickey” Boethin died at home on Aug. 7. Mickey was born in Sioux City, Iowa, on Sept. 14, 1931. She married Robert Boethin on Nov. 27, 1948. Together they operated Boethin Plumbing and Heating for 40 years. Mickey is survived by her husband, Bob, of 69 years; three sons, Ken (Shermayne) of John Day, Mike (Ruth) of Bend and Jim of Vancouver; two daughters, Kathleen (Ken) Palmrose of Meridian, Idaho, and Liz (Dennis) Pennington of Bend; nine grandchildren; and 14 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her grandson Dustin. Memorial contributions may be made to the Elks Eye Clinic of the Shriners Children’s Hospital through Driskill Memorial Chapel.

#### About Obituaries

News obituaries of 300 words or less 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 memorials. Obituaries longer than 300 words may be published as paid memorials. Send obituaries by email, [office@bmeagle.com](mailto:office@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.



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### SIGN-UP FOR FREE DENTAL SERVICES!

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**PARTICIPATING GRANT COUNTY SCHOOLS INCLUDE:**

- Humbolt School • Grant Union Jr/Sr High School
- Prairie City School • Seneca Elementary

Optional services include dental screenings, fluoride application and dental sealants.


73% of children in Grant County have had a cavity, in partnership with Advantage Dental, Healthy, Happy Smiles wants to lower that number. Consent forms will be available at registration or at the start of the school year.

**For additional information, contact:**



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**Robbins Farm Equipment**

3850 10th St.  
Baker City  
**541-523-6377**

62302 Pierce Rd.  
La Grande  
**541-963-6577**

1160 S Egan  
Burns  
**541-573-6377**

86812 Christmas Valley Hwy.  
Christmas Valley  
**541-576-2160**








71662

### LAST WEEK’S TEMPS

JOHN DAY	H/I/LO
TUESDAY .....	94/54
WEDNESDAY .....	91/58
THURSDAY .....	96/65
FRIDAY .....	88/61
SATURDAY .....	91/52
SUNDAY .....	92/56
MONDAY .....	81/61

**24/7 FORECAST**  
**AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122**  
**ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM**  
**NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY**  
**162.500 MHz**

### WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 22-28

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
						
Smoky	Smoky	Sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Cloudy	Mostly sunny
<b>88</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>57</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>45</b>