

**OBITUARIES**

**Alice McKinnis**

April 6, 1927 - Aug. 31, 2018

Alice McKinnis passed away on Aug. 31, 2018, with her loving husband, Wayne, and family by her side. Alice and Wayne were married on Dec. 17, 1955. Wayne and Alice lived most of their adult lives in John Day. They relocated to Bend in 2008 to spend their later years. In January of 2018, they moved to Medford to be closer to family. Alice is preceded in death by her daughter, Beverly Smith. She leaves behind her husband, Wayne; sons Rob and Brian McKinnis; and daughter, Sandy Durrell. She has nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. A celebration of life will be held later this fall.



**Laura Payne**

Sept. 8, 2018

It is with great sadness that the family of Laura Payne (aka Janet Stewart) announces her passing on Sept. 8, 2018, at the age of 63.

She is survived by Mom and Dad, Freda and Gene Lyman; children Shane and Dawn; grandchildren Noah, Zoey, Jessica, Andrea, Kelsey, Joshua and Cory; her ex-husband and friend Stephen Payne; siblings Margaret (Hal), Walter and Shelia; aunts Carolyn and Frances; nephews Tom and Ron; nieces Tara (Kamau), Leanna (Marcus), Savanna (Bryce) and Mariah; and many other family members and friends.

She would do anything for anybody. Before she returned to Oregon she was a volunteer at St. Vincent's in Caldwell, Idaho, and the Boswell Senior Center in Corcoran, California. She also volunteered for the Humane Society as she had such a great love of animals.

She will be remembered and loved by many.

A celebration of life will be held at 325 Highlan Drive Northeast, Mt. Vernon, at noon on Sept. 16, 2018.



# Flood damage assistance available for Grant County

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Farm Service Agency has announced it will be taking applications for assistance from spring flood damage Sept. 1 through Oct. 1.

The Emergency Conservation Program is a disaster program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's, Farm Service Agency, which provides cost-share assistance to affected producers that suffered damage of such magnitude that it would be too costly for the producer to rehabilitate without federal assistance.

A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost shares not to exceed 75 percent of the cost of installing eligible practices. Limited resource producers may receive up to 90 percent cost share. No producer is eligible for more than \$200,000 cost sharing per natural disaster. Approved practices and measures

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may include removing debris from farmland; grading, shaping or releveling severely damaged farmland; restoring permanent fences; or restoring conservation structures and other similar installations (ditches, head gates, diversions, etc.).

To be eligible for cost share, practices must not be started until a request has first been filed at the FSA county office, and

an on-site inspection of the problem area has been made by the county committee or its representative, which will review the on-site inspection findings when considering the request for cost shares.

If approved for cost share, all practices where ground disturbance will take place will need to have a cultural resource review completed for that area. Installation of a practice will need technical planning completed by the Natural Resource Conservation Service, except for debris removal or fence repair. Installation must meet NRCS standards and guidelines. Planning will be to rebuild the damaged practices to pre-disaster condition. All practices must be installed for use this year.

Producers who have experienced flood damage requiring outside assistance are encouraged to contact the Grant County FSA Office, 541-575-1274, ext. 2, to set up an appointment.

## Deputy district attorney departing near end of grant funding for position

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant County Deputy District Attorney Mara Houck, who has been in the position since December 2016, has recently been hired by the Deschutes County District Attorney and will be leaving Grant County Sept. 21.

Houck truly excelled in the position, which required her to prosecute all cases

involving sex abuse, child abuse and domestic violence, according to a statement from Grant County District Attorney Jim Carpenter.

The deputy district attorney, along with the victim intervention specialist and special investigator, have been funded entirely by a Violence Against Women Act grant. That grant cycle is three years and ends Sept. 30. Grant County has received this grant for four consecutive cycles, but the grant was not renewed for the 2018-21 cycle.

Carpenter said the deputy district attorney and victim intervention specialist positions are vital to the county and his office is exploring funding options to keep them.



## BIRTHS Smith



A girl, Emberlynn Edina Marie Smith, 6 pounds, was born in John Day to parents Mallory Thomas and Jedediah Smith of Seneca. She joins siblings Jase Whatley, 7, and Corey Holmstrom-Smith, 13. Grandparents are Calvin and Cami Clark of John Day, Mike and Sue Smith of Seattle and Cindy Smith of Seneca. Great-grandparents are Lavern and Linda Statbuck of Seneca and Glen and Jamie Edens of Condon.



## August colder than normal

Blue Mountain Eagle

Temperatures in John Day averaged colder than normal during the month of August, according to preliminary data received by the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

The average temperature was 66 degrees, which was 2.3 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged 85.2 degrees, which was 3 degrees below normal. The

highest was 103 degrees on Aug. 10. Low temperatures averaged 46.7 degrees, which was 1.6 degrees below normal. The lowest was 35 degrees, on Aug. 29.

On seven days, the temperature exceeded 90 degrees. It was at least 100 degrees on two days.

Precipitation totaled 0.08 inches during August, which was 0.56 inches below normal.

## Grace Chapel begins Saturday evening services

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grace Chapel in Prairie City is now providing Saturday evening worship services.

The meet and greet with coffee and cookies starts at 6:30 p.m. The service begins with contemporary worship songs at about 6:45 p.m. and ends at

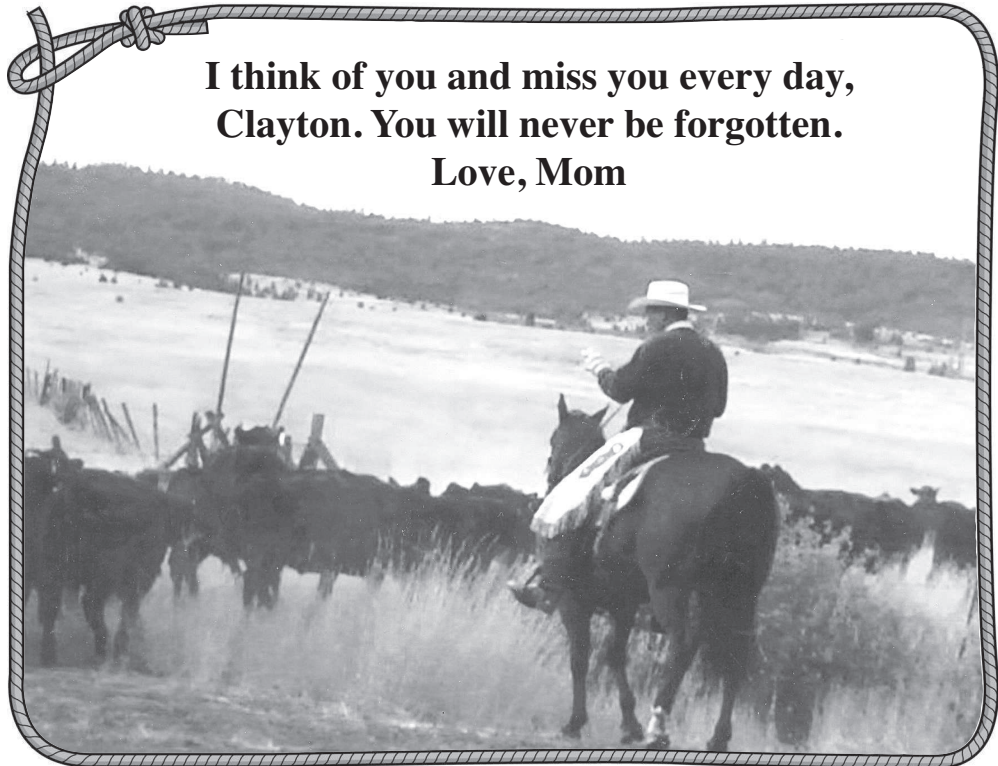
about 7:45 p.m. The church is situated at 154 E. Williams St. in Prairie City. For more information, contact Pastor Michael Harvey at 541-820-4437.

## CORRECTION

In the Grant County Hunting Journal, author Rod Carpenter's title was incorrect. He is a certified registered nurse anesthetist. The Eagle regrets the error.

**I think of you and miss you every day, Clayton. You will never be forgotten.**

**Love, Mom**



### STEVEN VINCENT COWELL

May 25, 1955 - August 23, 2018

Steven Vincent Cowell of North Las Vegas, Nevada, died suddenly August 23, 2018, at the age of 63 in St. Helens, Oregon. Steve was born May 25, 1955, to Kenneth and Joyce Cowell at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital in Penn Yan, New York. As a child he attended St. Michael School and enjoyed playing little league baseball. He later graduated from Penn Yan Academy with a scholarship from the American Legion. Steve was an avid golfer in his youth, an esteemed hobby that continued to flourish throughout his adult life.

Steve attended Wake Forest University (73- 76) where he worked toward a degree in medicine while being an active member of the Theta Chi Fraternity. Upon leaving Wake Forest, he then moved to Chicago where he began working for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, which eventually led him to Berkley, California. When he left the railroad, he moved to Burns, Oregon, before settling in John Day, Oregon, where he met his wife Edie and her son Charles. Steve and Edie were married August 17, 1985, and were soon blessed with their daughters Katrina and Sarah. Together they owned and operated the Corral Pastime, a favored bar among locals for Steve's New York-style pizza. In 1992 the family moved to Gresham, Oregon, where Steve began work as an HVAC Technician for Bewley Mechanical. In 2000 he joined UA Local 290 and began to work for Alliant Systems (FKA MacDonald Miller) until he retired in September of 2015. Steve was a passionate member of the union and continued his involvement into retirement. After retiring he and Edie moved to North Las Vegas, Nevada where he spent most of his time golfing with friends, following politics, placing bets in the sports book, and rooting for his many beloved sports teams. Steve loved the Yankees, the Buffalo Bills, NASCAR, and the Vegas Golden Knights. Each year he would enjoy his summer months visiting his children and grandchildren in Oregon with his wife Edie and their dog Murphy.

Steve is survived by his wife Edie Cowell, his son Charles (Shareena) McKenna, his daughters Katrina (Virgil) Newberry and Sarah Cowell and three grandchildren; Addy and Nathan Newberry and Emmalyn McKenna. His mother Joyce Trombley, brother Richard (Linda) Cowell, stepsister Molly (Jim) Towlslee and stepbrother Bill Corcoran. Also surviving him are numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and stepmother Kenneth and Beverly Cowell and his stepfather Donald Corcoran.

A celebration of life will be held September 13, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. at The Trails at The Resort at the Mountain, 68010 E Fairway Ave, Welches, Oregon 97067.

*Paid for by the family of Steven Cowell.*

**A huge *Thank You* to all of the staff at Blue Mountain Hospital for their incredible care of Elberta during her rehab of pneumonia and fractured wrist.**

**We want to acknowledge: Nurses, CNAs, Dietary, Physical Therapy, Housekeeping, Desk Staff, X-Ray Techs, Home Health and everyone else who went above and beyond in her care!!! We're so appreciative of their job in keeping her with us!!!**

*The family of  
Erie and Elberta Miller  
Sherry, Dawn & Kimberly*

78326

### LAST WEEK'S TEMPS

JOHN DAY	H/I/O
TUESDAY .....	85/48
WEDNESDAY .....	92/50
THURSDAY .....	89/55
FRIDAY .....	59/52
SATURDAY .....	80/53
SUNDAY .....	82/47
MONDAY .....	76/47

### 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 SEPT. 12-18

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly sunny	Chance of showers	Sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Mostly sunny
<b>66</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>