



Eagle file photo

A group of bicyclists take a break at the Conastoga Wagon Landmark off Highway 26 east of Prairie City.

## Chamber takes reins of landmark Prairie City wagon

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Landmark Conestoga Wagon at the viewpoint 2 miles east of Prairie City off Highway 26 has “come full circle,” said Grant County Chamber President Jerry Franklin.

The chamber recently assumed responsibility of the wagon and grounds from the Prairie City Community Association.

The PCCA, for a variety of reasons, including illness, was looking for another agency to take on the upkeep.

Visitors to the area have enjoyed the rest stop with the larger-than-life wagon since 1998 when the PCCA, the Prairie City City Council and Oregon Department of Transportation made a no-fee agreement for the care and maintenance of the wagon and grounds.

Franklin said he, his wife, Marcia, and other business owners in Prairie City helped form the Prairie City Business Association in the 1970s, which later became the PCCA.

Marcia, along with Derral Dew, Judy

Jacobs, Helen Emmel, Melanie DeJong, Sandy Murray and Leonard Wolf, were members of the PCCA when the wagon and its information kiosk were developed.

Funds for maintenance of the wagon and grounds, which includes a sizeable parking lot, will still be raised through advertisement panels, which are included on part of the wagon, and some assistance from the Grant County Transient Room Tax, which is administered by the chamber.

Jerry Franklin, who lives near the wagon, said he rarely drives by it without seeing one or more people at the site.

“This popular landmark and rest area has, over the past 21 years, attracted thousands of visitors who have stopped to rest and take photos of the wagon and the scenic view of the John Day Valley and our beautiful Strawberry Mountain range,” he said.

There was no charge for 29 current advertisers at the wagon for 2018, and there is no charge for this year, including the remaining months.

In 2020, the annual advertising fees at the

wagon will be \$200 for an 8x10-inch panel and \$300 for an 11x17-inch panel.

“We hope those who have faithfully supported the wagon over the years will continue to do so, and we hope that even more will come aboard and help out this popular landmark with more advertising or donations,” Franklin said.

A new tarp, costing \$1,000, was purchased for the wagon a couple years ago, and more restoration work is needed, he said.

Franklin said he feels the project needed some “new blood infused” into it, and added “everybody is on board” at the chamber.

All the communities in Grant County can add something to highlight their area — two of the panels are photos of Prairie City, paid for by the city. This could also include museums, he said.

“I think it will open a whole new world for the county,” he said.

Anyone interested in advertising at the wagon can stop by the chamber office at 301 W. Main St. in John Day or call 541-575-0547.

## Wright will serve as Bend Bulletin publisher

EO Media Group

Heidi Wright, chief operating officer of EO Media Group, will also serve as publisher of The Bulletin, effective Sept. 1.

EO Media Group has agreed to buy The Bulletin and Redmond Spokesman out of bankruptcy, and the deal is set to close at the end of August.

“I think it’s critical that we are able to deliver on the promises we’ve made to the employees and to the community,” Wright said. “So the owners have asked me to step into the leadership role to ensure that’s going to happen.”

Wright, 63, was chief financial officer of The Bulletin’s parent company, Western Communications, from 2014 to 2017, when she departed for Salem-based EO Media, a family-owned publishing company. She worked as publisher in Butte, Montana, for Lee Enterprises and was president of Klamath Publishing and publisher of the Herald and News in Klamath Falls from 2004 to 2014.

“Heidi’s deep knowledge of The Bulletin’s operations and her insights into the newspaper’s market equip her to lead The Bulletin as EO Media Group takes ownership of the newspaper,” said Steve Forrester, president and CEO of EO Media Group. “She will continue to be the chief operating officer of EO Media Group, and our corporate headquarters will remain in Salem.”

“I feel like saying ‘Welcome home!’” said Betsy McCool, chairwoman of the board of The Bulletin’s parent company, Western Communications. “Heidi was wonderful to work with in the past, and I feel that I can call her a friend.”

EO Media Group announced Wednesday that it would not retain editor Erik Lukens and would hire a new editor from outside the company. The company was the high bidder at a bankruptcy court auction July 29 for The Bulletin and Redmond Spokesman, offering \$3.65 million for Central Oregon’s century-old daily newspaper and a sister weekly.

## Grant School District has board vacancy

Grant School District 3 is accepting applications for a board of director vacancy. Applicants must be a registered voter for one year. The term will run through June 30, 2021.

Those interested in applying may pick up an application from Superintendent Bret Uptmor, 401 N. Canyon City Blvd., Canyon City. The application deadline is Sept. 2.

### 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; 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.

## OBITUARIES

### Tammy Marie Binschus

A final memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 24 at Clyde Holliday State Park for Tammy Marie Binschus. There will be a potluck dinner afterward, and pulled pork sandwiches will be provided.

Mildred Pearl Belshaw, age 93, was born July 24, 1926 in Dayville, Oregon to Kellogg & Pearl Morris Snow. She died on August 15, 2019 at her son Mark’s home in Redmond with family by her side.

Millie lived in Dayville through the 2nd grade and in John Day grades 3 through 6. During grades 7 through 12 she lived on the Moon Creek Ranch near Mt. Vernon. She graduated from high school in 1945. In 1947 Millie married Dr. Terrance Parsons of New Westminster B.C. They had 2 children, Matt and Gaye. In 1951 she moved back to Portland and met and married Ed Rieger in 1953. They had 2 children, Ron and Mark.

In 1972 Millie moved back to John Day and married her high school sweetheart Carl Belshaw where she remained until early May 2019 when she moved to Redmond to live with her son Mark and his wife Toni. Millie worked many years as a customer service representative for Portland Area Freightline Companies. She also worked for the Grant County Road Department from 1973 until her retirement.

Millie & Carl spent many years bowling, fishing, hunting and traveling until Carl became ill and passed away in 2005. Millie enjoyed her special time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Millie also enjoyed time with her close companion Ken Moore of Mt. Vernon.

Millie is survived by her son Matt Rieger of Washougal, WA, Ron Rieger (Ranell) of Mt. Vernon, Mark Rieger (Toni) of Redmond, Connie White (Gene) of Virginia, Eugene Belshaw of Washington, Rita Smith (Kevin) of Oregon, Curtis Belshaw and Calvin Belshaw both of Bend. She is also survived by her grandchildren Jamie Benton (Grant) of Redmond, Aaron Watne (Danielle) of Camas, WA, Brenda Stanton (Todd) of Camas, WA, Stacey White of Virginia, Todd White of Virginia, Trevor Rieger of Redmond and Austin Rieger (Tina) of Redmond. She is also survived by her 9 great-grandchildren Jasmine, Josh, Coby, Bryce, Addison, Sydney, Harper, Carson and Reese as well as many special nieces, nephews and cousins.

Millie was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Carl Belshaw, daughter Gabrielle Nyberg, and her brother Morris Snow. At Millie’s request there will be no public service. Friends and family are invited to a potluck to celebrate her amazing life on Saturday, August 24th at her home in John Day - 306 NW 5th Street from 1-4 PM. Please bring your favorite story or memory to share of Millie or “Aunt Dickie” as she was also fondly known.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Talking Book and Braille Library: State Library of Oregon 250 Winter St. NE Salem, OR 97301-3950. These books brought so many years of joy for Millie. To light a candle for Millie or to offer online condolences to her family, please visit www.driskillmemorialchapel.com Paid for by the family of Millie Belshaw

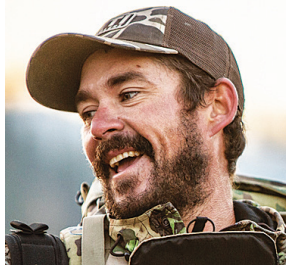
### Drew Thomas Knowles

Sept. 28, 1982 – July 26, 2019

Drew Thomas Knowles was born on September 28, 1982, in Portland, Oregon to Sally Gregory Knowles and Jeffrey Blakeston Knowles. He died on July 26, 2019. From the beginning, Drew was a ray of sunshine in the lives of all who knew him. He lived life to the fullest, with passion and exuberance. Drew attended Grant Union High School in John Day, Oregon; graduating in 2001. Drew was an athlete, playing football, basketball, and baseball, and participating in wrestling and rodeo during high school. He was a member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, participating in steer wrestling, calf roping, team roping, and steer roping. But the roping he loved most was branding calves with his family and friends.

A farrier by trade, Drew shod horses from Fossil to Winnemucca. He truly loved his job. He loved the work and he loved the people. He developed many lifelong friendships on his shoeing route. Drew loved the outdoors, cutting firewood, hunting, fishing and running his hound dogs. He was not afraid to go after a cougar or a bear in a hole or grab a rattlesnake by the tail. The ranch at Drewsey was his very favorite place to be. Drew was the epitome of an ardently involved father, not just playing with his boys, but taking them with him everywhere. But he was active in coaching, not only his kids but all of them with the Grant County Wrestling Club and little league baseball. He had a particular talent as an artist and craftsman, working in leather, wood, and metal. He could hone knives out of rasps, make a purse, a piece of furniture, or a one of a kind branding iron. He would give his pieces of art to those dear to him and where he saw the need. Drew shared his passion for life with everyone with the biggest smile, a twinkle in his eye and a bear hug whether you wanted one or not. A genuine friend, Drew would give you the shirt off his back. He made everything fun. But there was nothing he loved more than being with Jessie and the boys. Drew is survived by his wife of ten years, Jessica, and his three sons, Charley, Jack and Cody; his mother, Sally; his brother, Trevor, and sister-in-law, Jena; as well as numerous other relatives and an abundance of friends. He is preceded in death by his father, Jeffrey Knowles.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sons of Drew Knowles Memorial Fund through Driskill Memorial Chapel at 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To leave an online condolence for Drew’s family or to view the tribute video, please visit: www.driskillmemorialchapel.com. Paid for by the family of Drew Thomas Knowles



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**Grant County HEALTH Department**

528 E. Main, St. E., John Day

**Monday - Thursday 7am - 6pm**

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**Mendy Sharpe FNP**

*Appointments available*

Call and schedule your appointment today!

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or 541-575-0429

**A MAN WAKES UP in the morning after sleeping on... an advertised bed, in advertised pajamas.**

He will bathe in an ADVERTISED TUB, shave with an ADVERTISED RAZOR, have a breakfast of ADVERTISED JUICE, cereal and toast, toasted in an ADVERTISED TOASTER, put on ADVERTISED CLOTHES and glance at his ADVERTISED WATCH. He’ll ride to work in his ADVERTISED CAR, sit at an ADVERTISED DESK and write with an ADVERTISED PEN. Yet this person hesitates to advertise, saying that advertising doesn’t pay. Finally, when his non-advertised business is going under, HE’LL ADVERTISE IT FOR SALE.

*Then it’s too late.*

**AND THEY SAY ADVERTISING DOESN’T WORK? DON’T MAKE THIS SAME MISTAKE**

*Advertising is an investment, not an expense. Think about it!*

**Blue Mountain Eagle MyEagleNews.com**

Don’t get left behind, call today! Kim Kell 541-575-0710

### Last Week’s Temps

John Day	HI/LO
TUESDAY .....	89/51
WEDNESDAY .....	89/56
THURSDAY .....	84/56
FRIDAY .....	83/55
SATURDAY .....	82/51
SUNDAY .....	91/52
MONDAY .....	91/56

#### 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. 21-27

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly sunny	Clouds and sun	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Plenty of sunshine	Sunshine	Very warm
<b>88</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>55</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>49</b>