

## GRANT UNION STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — NOVEMBER



**Grade 12**  
**Cierra Wyllie**  
Parents: Layton and Kari Wyllie



**Grade 11**  
**Noah Blood**  
Parents: Will and Dorothy Blood



**Grade 10**  
**Paige Weaver**  
Parents: Jarrod and Janine Weaver



**Grade 9**  
**Amelia Hall**  
Parents: David and Alicia Hall



**Grade 8**  
**Aliciana Archibald**  
Parents: David and Camilla Archibald



**Grade 7**  
**Heidi Jackson**  
Parents: Layne and Janelle Jackson

## Prairie City honor roll — first nine weeks

**Seniors**  
Honor roll (3.5-4.0 GPA): JoLynne Ashley, Shaelynn Bice, Aleah Johns, Johna Long, Kaden Madden, Madalyn Way, Cole Deiter and Rilee Emmel.

Honorable mention (3.0-3.49 GPA): Shaine Madden, Carson McKay, Emily Ennis, Jacob McClung, Opie McDaniel, Lucas McKinley, Abby Winegar, Jacob McHatton and Austin Catron.

**Juniors**  
Honor roll: Brandon Horrell, Caitlin Willet, Declan Zwegardt, Aries Bice, Katie Hire, Jayden Winegar and Samantha Workman.

Honorable mention: Abbey Pfefferkorn, Tanner Way, Tristan McMahan, Jesaka Culley, Jayda Dubois and Kevin Duvall.

**Sophomores**  
Honor roll: Marcus Judd, Seth Moore and Hannah Wall.

Honorable mention: Masyn Keith.

**Freshmen**  
Honor roll: Kaitlynn Ashley, Laken McKay, Leif Rausch and Paige Shaw.

Honorable mention: Cole Teel, BettyAnn Wilson, Boe Workman and Dalli Girvin.

**Eighth-graders**  
Honor roll: Cliff Bice, Wes Voigt, Porsche Kite, Tristen Gibson, Cayden Howard, Brooke Teel and Jaycee Winegar.

Honorable mention: Cody Reagan, Kyler Shaw, McKenzie Lawrence, Francisco Beam, Lane Clark and Zach Montwheeler.

**Seventh-graders**  
Honor roll: Reece Jacobs, Tamara Judd, Eric Rausch, Josie Horrell, Clyde Holliday, Eli Hinkle, Lilly Rockhill, Addisen Saul and Gracie Voigt.

Honorable mention: Skylar McKay, Zoey Beam, Hagen Workman and Preston Davis.

## CORRECTION

In a Dec. 4 letter to the editor from Dave Traylor, the Eagle inadvertently made an error while typing that changed the text to “state cop’s hate” in the last sentence. As submitted, the letter reads “state cop’s hat.” The Eagle regrets the error.

# OTEC member-owners to receive \$3.5 million in capital credits

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative’s board of directors has approved the retirement of \$3.5 million in capital credits to its members, the second-highest amount OTEC has ever returned.

“I am extremely pleased that OTEC has financial strength to be able to retire capital credits for the 23rd consecutive year,” said Anthony Bailey, OTEC’s chief financial officer. “Co-ops exist to make sure the needs of their members are being met, not to make a profit.”

Capital credits retirements are one of the more visible benefits of membership in an electric cooperative. Returns of less than \$15 are applied to the member’s account to reduce their December bill. Members with greater amounts receive a check in the mail.

Since OTEC first began retiring capital credits in 1996, the co-op has returned \$43 million to member-owners. The \$3.5 million returned to member-owners beginning in December equates to more than 4% of all the capital credits balances on file.

Capital credits are each

member-owner’s share of margins earned during the year. At the close of the year, after all operating expenses have been paid, remaining margins are allocated to each member’s capital credits account based on the amount of services purchased during the year.

These capital credits become each member’s “owners’ equity” and investment in OTEC.

Capital credits reduce the cooperative’s need to borrow for plant upgrades or additions. OTEC uses the capital credits for a period of time before returning

them back to the members. By maintaining an equity level recommended by our lenders, OTEC benefits from lower borrowing rates and ensures the cooperative remains financially stable into the future to serve its member’s needs.

Since the 1990s, OTEC has returned capital credits when financially possible. Unlike an investor-owned utility, which returns a portion of profits back to their stockholders, nonprofit cooperatives like OTEC allocate and periodically return those funds back to the member-owners of the cooperative.

## BEO Bancorp announces dividend for 2019

Blue Mountain Eagle

BEO Bancorp has declared a \$0.90 per share dividend for 2019.

Shareholders of record as of Dec. 2 should receive the dividend by Dec. 16, according to CEO Jeff Bailey.

Board Chairman Joel

Peterson said BEO Bancorp has paid a dividend 33 of the past 34 years.

“Dividends reflect the financial stability and profitability of the bank,” he said. “We are very happy to be able to provide this dividend to our

shareholders.”

This year’s dividend is 5.88% higher than last year’s \$0.85 dividend.

“It is indicative of Bank of Eastern Oregon’s strong capital position,” Bailey said. “The board of directors and employees work hard to improve

the overall strength of the bank, add value to our shareholders, as well as provide the brand of banking that our customers appreciate and expect from Bank of Eastern Oregon.”

For more information, visit beobank.com.

## Merkley opens Eastern Oregon field office in Baker City

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon’s U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley has opened an Eastern Oregon field office in Baker City, which will serve as the local point of contact for Oregonians in Grant, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Malheur and Baker counties.

The move from Pendleton to the Baker Tower comes after Merkley had a new staffer, Jessica Keys, join his team as Eastern Oregon field representative.

“It is important to me that every region in our state has a local office to field questions and information, and local staff to be out and available in our communities,” Merkley said. “I’m glad we’re opening our doors to this new, centrally located office.”

The new office is located at The Baker Tower, 1705 Main St., Suite 504, Baker City, OR 97814.

The phone number is 541-278-1129.



U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley at a Grant County town hall.

Eagle file photo

## High Desert Cattle Company joins American Angus Association

Blue Mountain Eagle

High Desert Cattle Company of Canyon City is a new member of the American Angus Association, reports Mark McCully, CEO of the national breed

organization headquartered in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

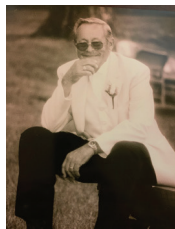
The American Angus Association, with more than 25,000 active adult and junior members, is the largest beef breed association in the world. Its computerized

records include detailed information on over 19 million registered Angus.

The association records ancestral information and keeps production records and genomic data on individual animals to develop industry-leading selection tools for its members. The programs and services of the association and its

entities — Angus Genetics Inc., Angus Productions Inc., Certified Angus Beef LLC and the Angus Foundation — help members to advance the beef cattle business by selecting the best animals for their herds and marketing quality genetics for the beef cattle industry and quality beef for consumers.

### NILS KENNETH AMES



Nils Kenneth Ames, a man of many musical talents, went to join the big band in the sky on December 2, 2019. He passed in the presence of his wife and family in his home in Joseph, Oregon. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM on December 14, 2019 at the Thunder Room in Joseph, Oregon.

Nils was a man who lived his life to the fullest and had a profound effect on the lives of those around him. He was born on June 20, 1930 in Milwaukie, OR. He graduated from Milwaukie High School in 1948. During high school he found his love for skiing and music. After high school he spent one year at the University of Oregon as a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. He served as a member of the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, as well as the ski team. He enlisted in the Air Force on March 31st, 1949 and served in the Korean War. While in the military he spent time stationed in Austin, Texas where he played with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. Once home from the war he played music with many notable musicians such as; BB King, Rose Maddox and the Maddox Brothers, and The Drifters. He shared his love of music with all he met and especially his family.

While he was a member of The Drifters, he met the love of his life Shelia. They met and married in six weeks and celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary this July. Nils was above all a man who loved his family. Nils moved to Joseph, OR with his young family in 1980. While in Wallowa County he was a member of many bands, including Psalms 150 his family gospel band. He served as a member of the Shriners and VFW. He drove school bus for the Joseph School Dist. and Moffett Bros. Transportation. During his time as a bus driver he made an impact on many of the students, teachers, and parents who rode his bus. Nils was famous for his shenanigans at the school. Whether it was short sheeting the beds while traveling to a state tournament or making surprise announcements over the loudspeaker, Nils infused fun into everything he did. His smile, jokes, and kindness for everyone will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his wife Shelia Ames; brother, Michael Binns; his son, Robert Ames and wife Laurie; his daughters Kimberly (Ames) McManus and husband Edward, and Kjer (Ames) Kizer and husband Kristopher; and his grandchildren, Emma McManus, Hollis, and AnnMarie Kizer.

He was preceded in death by his parents Loretta Elizabeth Kier and Kenneth Ames.

The family would like to offer special thanks to the EMS crew, the Volunteer Fire Department, Dr. G. Maly and the many others who have assisted in his care. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Joseph Fire Department, Shriners’ Children’s Hospital, or the charity of your choice through Gray’s West & Company at 1500 Dewey Avenue, Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Nils, or to leave a condolence for the family, visit: [www.grayswestco.com](http://www.grayswestco.com).

*Paid for by the Family of Nils Kenneth Ames.*

5158853-1

### PAINTED SKY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

118 S. WASHINGTON STREET  
CANYON CITY, OR 97820  
(541) 620-3788  
[PAINTEDSKYCENTER.COM](http://PAINTEDSKYCENTER.COM)

---

**Youth Programs Calendar - December Events**

**Best Christmas Pageant Ever:** Friday, December 13, 7:00 PM (opening night) & Saturday, December 14, 2:00 PM (matinee) at the Canyon City Community Hall. A cute, funny holiday pageant for the entire family, brought to you by the Youth Arts Program. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

**Music Lessons:** See [paintedskycenter.com/music-lessons](http://paintedskycenter.com/music-lessons) for more info or to register. Music lesson punch cards available to purchase. Give the gift of music lessons this holiday season.

**Arts After School & Friday Art Club:** Ongoing; see more at [Paintedskycenter.com/Kids-Art](http://Paintedskycenter.com/Kids-Art). Wait lists enabled; with enough interest we will look at starting additional classes.

**Youth Arts Program:** Program will continue, with other projects upcoming. See [paintedskycenter.com](http://paintedskycenter.com) to enroll, or email [grantcountyYAP@gmail.com](mailto:grantcountyYAP@gmail.com) for more information.

Sponsored by:  
**DOUG'S**  
MOTOR VEHICLE REPAIR

For more info or to register visit [paintedskycenter.com](http://paintedskycenter.com) or email [paintedskycenter@gmail.com](mailto:paintedskycenter@gmail.com).  
5158905-1

### Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday .....	49/32
Wednesday .....	48/29
Thursday.....	41/28
Friday.....	44/31
Saturday.....	44/36
Sunday.....	42/36
Monday.....	43/35

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 DEC. 11-17

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Possible snow	Cloudy rain possible	Possible snow	Possible snow	Cloudy	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny
44	46	43	37	33	41	41
39	34	30	25	14	24	25