

# BEO Bancorp reports 2019 earnings

Blue Mountain Eagle

BEO Bancorp and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced consolidated year-end 2019 earnings of \$4,278,000, an increase of 8.2% when compared to \$3,949,000 in 2018. Average earnings per share were up 8.7% at \$3.62. Total assets were up 18.8% from \$414.4 million to \$492 million. Net loans were up 32.2% at \$429 million, while deposits increased 19.7% year over year to \$441 million.

"2019 was a year of expansion for our bank," said President and CEO Jeff Bailey in a press release. "During the year we acquired or opened six branches (Colfax, Day-

ton, LaCrosse, and Pomeroy, Washington, along with Hermiston and La Grande, Oregon), bringing our total number of branches to 20. We also expanded our lending teams in southeast Washington and northeast Oregon. These initiatives helped fuel the growth that we experienced year over year. Deposits grew by \$72 million and loans increased by \$104 million."

According to Chief Financial Officer Mark Lemmon 2019 return on average assets is 0.94% compared to 0.95% in 2018. Return on average equity is at 11.84% compared to 11.91% in 2018.

"Our book value per share is up 13.7% at \$32.09 compared to \$29.21

one year ago," he said. "Shareholder equity is also up 9% year over year."

Chief Operations Officer Gary Prophet said, "We have welcomed new people to our banking team and these team members have done a tremendous job of bringing over new business relationships to our bank."

During 2019 the business completed ATM upgrades and numerous other technology advancements, he said.

"2019 was a solid year for Bank of Eastern Oregon," Bailey said. "In 2020 we are celebrating our 75th anniversary, and we see the steps taken in 2019 as a continuation of what has made our bank successful since 1945."

## OBITUARIES

### V. Jaylene (Becker) Bezona

Aug. 25, 1942 – Feb. 27, 2020

V. Jaylene (Becker) Bezona, 77, of Prairie City passed away Feb. 27, 2020, at her residence with her loved ones by her side. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at the Prairie City Cemetery with a reception to follow at the Prairie City High School gym.

Jaylene was born in Prairie City, Oregon, to Bud and Billie (Glasgow) Becker on Aug. 25, 1942. She attended Prairie City High School and married Loren Bezona in Winnemucca, Nevada, on Sept. 18, 1964.

Jaylene was a rancher and enjoyed many horse related activities, drawing, leather work and helping young kids and friends with riding lessons.

Survivors include her daughter, Janna (Roger) Lee of Prairie City, Oregon; son, Lonnie (Amy) Bezona of Ontario, Oregon; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jody Dean Thompson, and her husband of many years, Loren Bezona.

Memorial contributions can be made to Hope 4 Paws through Driskill Memorial Chapel at 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To offer online condolences to the family, visit [driskillmemorialchapel.com](http://driskillmemorialchapel.com).

## EAGLE ON VACATION — AFRICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



Contributed photo

Twenty-three people with the John Day Church of the Nazarene are at Africa Nazarene University working to bring 21st century technology and a fresh coat of paint to the classrooms of this Kenyan University. Other projects have included painting the exterior of the medical clinic and plumbing repairs in the girls dorm and other restrooms. In the photo are, from left, front row, Marla Armstrong, Tilli Bjornberg, Judy Miles, Jeanette Julsrud, Pam Durr and Julie Johns; second row, Myckee Coalwell, Torie Coalwell, Tom Hundley, Faith Hundley, Karen Godbold and David Johns; third row, Carle Wright, Neal Bauer, Tammy Bremner and Greg Armstrong; and back row, Dan Komning, Everett King, Savannah Wyllie, Dale Stennett, Greg Slusarenko, Bob Cobb and Pastor Randy Johnson.

## Fire refresher class planned March 21 in Baker City

Blue Mountain Eagle

Eastern Oregon Training Group will hold a RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher class on March 21.

It will be at the 5J School District Building, 2090 Fourth St., Baker City. Class will begin at 8 a.m.

A practice fire shelter deployment will be held. This is a required class for all federal and state contractors that

will be on the fire line.

A certified National Wild-fire Suppression Association instructor will instruct the class. The cost is \$100 for NWSA members and \$130 for non-members.

Registration can be completed at [oregonfiretraining.com](http://oregonfiretraining.com). Preregistration is requested.

For more information, call Laurel Goodrich at 541-403-0907 or Jeff Sherman at 541-519-6213.

## John Day Ministerial Association hosting Lenten luncheons

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The John Day Ministerial Association will host Lenten luncheons at a variety of churches during Lent.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., followed by a service at the following locations:

March 4: St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in John Day

March 11: St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Canyon City

March 18: First Christian Church in John Day

March 25: Redeemer Lutheran Church in John Day

April 1: Church of the Nazarene in John Day

April 8: Seventh-day Adventist Church in John Day

For more information, call 541-575-0104.

## FSA encourages producers to enroll soon in coverage programs

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USDA's Farm Service Agency encourages agricultural producers to enroll now in the Agriculture Risk Loss (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. March 15 is the enrollment deadline for the 2019 crop year.

Although more than 200,000 producers have enrolled to date, FSA anticipates 1.5 million producers will enroll for ARC and PLC.

"FSA offices have multiple programs competing for the time and attention of our staff. Because of the importance and complexities of the ARC and PLC programs, and to ensure we meet your program delivery expectations, please do not wait to start the enrollment process," said FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce. "I cannot emphasize enough the need to begin the program election and enrollment process now. Please call your FSA county office and make an appointment soon to ensure your elections are made and contracts signed

well ahead of the deadlines."

ARC and PLC provide financial protections to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenues and are vital economic safety nets for most American farms.

The programs cover the following commodities: barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat.

Until March 15, producers who have not yet enrolled in ARC or PLC for 2019 can enroll for both 2019 and 2020 during the same visit to an FSA county office unless yield updates are requested. Additionally, farm owners have a one-time opportunity to update PLC payment yields that take effect beginning with crop year 2020. If the owner accompanies the producer to the office, the yield update and enrollments may be completed during the same office visit.

## McCloskey, Carter named to Oregon State University honor roll

Blue Mountain Eagle

Names of students who have made the Scholastic Honor Roll Fall term have been announced by Oregon State University.

Jennifer I. McCloskey, a senior studying applied visual arts from John Day, earned a straight-A average.

Jessica L. Carter, a senior

studying animal sciences from Seneca, earned a 3.5 GPA or better.

A total of 1,711 students earned straight-A (4.0 GPA). Another 4,920 earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

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### Last Week's Temps

Day	HI/LO
John Day Tuesday	53/24
Wednesday	55/32
Thursday	59/28
Friday	62/35
Saturday	43/29
Sunday	44/27
Monday	46/39

### 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 MARCH 4 - 10

Day	Forecast	High	Low
Wednesday	Cloudy	53	34
Thursday	Mostly cloudy	64	40
Friday	Possible rain	60	35
Saturday	Cloudy	42	26
Sunday	Cloudy	45	28
Monday	Mostly sunny	49	21
Tuesday	Sunny	57	28