Col. Rougeau retires from Air Force after 30-year career

Blue Mountain Eagle

On Jan. 17, Col. Tami Rougeau, a 1986 graduate of Grant Union High School, retired from the U.S. Air Force after 30 years of service. Rougeau was stationed in Washington, D.C., as director of health care operations in the Office of the Surgeon General of the Air Force.

The ceremony was held at the Women in Military Service Memorial Museum in D.C., and was presided over by her friend and mentor Lt. Gen. Dorothy Hogg, surgeon general of the Air Force.

During her 30-year career, Rougeau was stationed in California, Illinois, Texas and D.C. She was deployed a total of six times in support of operations in Africa and



Contributed photo/Tracev Attlee

Col. Tami Rougeau, center, stands with her brother Wayne Johnston, left, of Helena, Montana, and his wife, Janet Johnston, following her retirement from the Air Force. All three are graduates of Grant Union High School. Rougeau presented her brother with her retirement flag in appreciation of the support he and his family provided during her years of service.

the Middle East. As a tion, director of operations flight nurse she held positions to include instructor, tion, aeromedical evacuaexaminer, chief of standardization and evalua-

for aeromedical evacuation squadron commander (Kandahar, Afghanistan) and director of patient stage operations, among others.

In addition to her overseas deployments, she performed duties in support of disaster events to include leading the evacuation efforts on St. Croix after hurricane Maria devastated the island in 2017.

Upon her retirement, she was presented with the Legion of Merit medal for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service to the United States.

Rougeau is the daughter of Richard and Carlene Johnston of John Day. Her brother Wayne Johnston and his wife, Janet, also Grant Union alumni, attended the ceremony along with several of Rougeau's Grant Union classmates.

OTEC installs its first electric vehicle charging station

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative unveiled its first of three planned electric vehicle charging stations on Feb. 27 in Burns. The charging station is located behind the Harney County Chamber of Commerce off North Broadway Avenue in downtown Burns. OTEC plans to install two more EV charging stations this year, one in Baker City and one in John Day.

"Our region is an ideal place to own an EV as more than 94% of our power we buy from BPA is carbon-free, 84.5% of which is hydroelectric," said Charlie Tracy, OTEC's director of engineering, in a press release. "When you drive an EV, you are trading fos-



Contributed photo

Oreton Trail Electric Cooperative has installed its first electric vehicle charging station in Burns. The co-op plans to install one in John Day later this year.

sil fuels like gas and diesel with energy coming from clean energy mix while saving money.

The cost of installing the charging stations comes from Oregon's Clean Fuels program. They will have no effect on OTEC's member-owners' power rates.

EV drivers can now stop and charge their vehicle in Burns and are charged nominal rates per kilowatt hour. Drivers are encouraged to walk around Burns while their vehicle charges, which OTEC hopes will provide a boost to the local economy.

OTEC is committed to continue being a steward of the environment. For more information about electric vehicles, visit otec.coop/ electric-vehicles-evs. The website includes information on the benefits of EVs. how much can be saved by driving an EV compared to a gas vehicle and what kind of rebates and tax credits are available from the state and federal government.

OTEC is also offering member-owners if they purchase homecharging units for EVs, which are just as easy to install as a typical washer or dryer.

Fossil Beds hosting youth corps this summer

Blue Mountain Eagle

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument will sponsor an eight-week Youth Conservation Corps program this summer.

Youth ages 15 to 18 may apply for the program. The summer program will go from June 15 to Aug. 11. This is a full-time job, eight hours per day Mondays through Fridays.

The program consists of learning the day-to-day operations of a National Park Service park and hands-on experience working with different divisions

*a*Place

for Mom.

within the park.

To obtain an application for the program, visit the school office at Grant Union High School, Prairie City High School, Dayville School, Spray School, Monument School, Mitchell School, Fossil School or the Grant County Library in John Day.

The application due date is May 15. All completed applications can be submitted by mail to: Attn: Shane Loescher, YCC; John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, 32651 Highway 19; Kimberly, OR 97848.

Lake Creek Youth Camp fundraising dinner planned

Blue Mountain Eagle

Lake Creek Youth Camp will hold its annual fundraising dinner and auction at 5 p.m. April 4 at the John Day Elks Lodge.

Dinner tickets cost \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. The 23-acre camp in the Strawberry Range of the Malheur National Forest in Logan Valley provides youths, families and organizations a place to gather in safe and secure environment.

Four A-frame cabins are in disrepair and must be torn down and rebuilt, and a new generator or solar system is needed. The project is estimated to cost \$300,000.

Last year's gala raised more than \$25,000 for needed repairs.

Donations of money, items or baskets will help make this year's event successful. Contributions are tax deductible. Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 542, John Day, OR 97845, or call 541-206-2421 to arrange pick up. PayPal donations may be made at lakecreekcamp.org.

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OBITUARIES

Thomas 'Tom' C. Nielson

June 27, 1940 — March 2, 2020 Thomas "Tom' C. Nielson, 79, of Seneca passed away

peacefully in John Day on Monday, March 2, 2020. A cele-

bration of life will be held at a later date. Tom worked for Minute Maid Distributing for 48 years before he and his wife, Janice, chose Seneca, Oregon, as the place they would like to retire. He loved the outdoors and

had many adventures with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Janice Nielson; children, Tonya Barnes, Cory Nielson, Benjamin Nielson and Dana Nielson; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

To send an online condolence for the family, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

Fera 'Chuck' B. Brown

Feb. 2, 1933 — March 1, 2020

Fera "Chuck" B. Brown, age 87, of Canyon City, Oregon, passed away March 1, 2020, at Blue Mountain Hospital with his family by his side. Arrangements have been entrusted to Driskill Memorial Chapel.

Fera was born to Achilles and Myrtle (Boyce) Brown on Feb. 2, 1933, in Sheridan, Wyoming. He served in the Army during the Korean War. After he returned stateside, he married Carol Joyce Warnick on Nov. 12, 1953, in Forest Grove,

He enjoyed the outdoors and hunting, fishing and camping with his family and friends.

He is survived by his sons, Tracy (Mary) Brown and Kelly (Leanne) Brown of Long Creek, Oregon; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Veterans Cancer Center or the Shriners Children's Hospital through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To offer an online condolence to the family, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

Lola Marie DeRosier

Jan. 17, 1936 — Feb. 26, 2020

Lola Marie DeRosier, 84, of John Day left this earth with her husband of 68 years and her loved ones by her side on Feb. 26, 2020.

Lola was born in Medford, Oregon, to Victor and Velma Chapman on Jan. 17, 1936. She was one of six children. She attended Prospect High School and married Jackson DeRosier on Oct. 18, 1952. They honeymooned at Malheur River with two buck tags and a tent. Both of them bagged two huge bucks. Lola had five children, Sherri, Bill,

Pete, Debbie and Dana. She loved

water skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, camping, huckleberry and mushroom picking. She loved making sure no one left her house hungry. She had many grandchildren and great-grandchildren whom she loved dearly. She was preceded in death by her dad and mom, two sisters, one brother and her youngest daughter, Dana.

All who knew her knew her smile, her laugh and her love of her family. A celebration of life is planned for May. All who knew her and loved her are welcomed.



BIRTHS



A girl, Emery Kay Wunz, 7 pounds, 1 ounce, was born to parents Nathan and Lydia Wunz of Cheney, Washington, Feb. 1 at Sacred Heart in Spokane, Washington. She joins sibling, Thea Grace Wunz, 19 months. Grandparents are Brenda and Jay Taramasso of John Day, PJ Winter of The Dalles and Mr. and Mrs. Eric Wunz of Baker City. Great-grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Glass of John Day, Evelyn Wunz of Belleville, Pennsylvania, and Richard Winter of Warrenton, Virginia.





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Weather Forecast for the week of March 11 - 17

Wednesday **Thursday Friday** Saturday Sunday **Monday Tuesday Partly** Mostly Sunny Mostly Possible Mostly Mostly

sunny sunny sunny sunny sunny **30**