

Summer lunch details expected to come soon

Blue Mountain Eagle

John Day-Canyon City Parks and Recreation District is planning for what summer lunches may look like this year. They have been approved for the grant that they have had in the past for the summer lunch program, but there are no details as of now in terms of how the program will look, according to Parks and Rec board member Lisa Weigum. "I imagine it will look

different than it has in years past just because of the restrictions around COVID, but we should know anything now about the grant," Weigum said. As soon as Parks and Rec receives additional information, they plan to share the details on how the program will work. "We're exploring a lot of different options, trying to see if we are funded, what can that potentially look like," Weigum said.



Eagle file photo
Children enjoy lunch at the John Day city park near Gleason Pool last year.

East Oregonian looks within for new publisher

By Alex Castle
EO Media Group



Andrew Cutler

A familiar face is taking on new roles within the East Oregonian and the EO Media Group.

Andrew Cutler, who has spent the last 13 months as editor of the East Oregonian, is stepping into the duties of publisher of the East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald, taking over the role from Chris Rush. Cutler will take over as publisher on Wednesday, July 1.

"Sometimes you have good luck and don't have to look very far to find the right person," said EO Media Group Chief Operating Officer Heidi Wright. "It's critical to be able to have someone with the past experience of Andrew to maintain our role in the communities we serve and keep a relevant, reflective and credible connection to those communities."

Cutler said the past year as editor of the East Oregonian has been eye opening but he's excited to assume the new role and help the paper moving forward.

"It's incredibly humbling and gratifying," Cutler said of being named publisher. "The company and its east side papers have a long, proud history, and I don't take my position and responsibility of continuing it lightly."

Rush is leaving after a little more than two years in Pendleton to move to Amarillo, Texas, with his wife at the end of June to be closer to their family in the region.

"I am hoping to leverage my many years of experience in the news industry into a possible teaching career at the college level, as well as some other professional projects," Rush said of his next steps while speaking highly of his replacement. "Andrew Cutler is a consummate journalist and one of the best editors I've ever had the privilege to work with. He places high value on accuracy and telling the full story."

During his time, Rush helped lead the company through its regional transition when it purchased the La Grande Observer and the Baker City Herald in 2019.

"These last couple of years — and especially these last few months — have been a challenging time for the newspaper industry, and Chris Rush has been an integral part of helping EO Media Group navigate through these times," said EO Media Group Vice President Kathryn Brown. "We will miss his wisdom and experience, but he leaves the East Oregonian and our sister papers in the region in good hands."

In addition to the publisher duties, Cutler will also serve as the regional editorial direc-

tor overseeing the East Oregonian, Hermiston Herald, Blue Mountain Eagle, Walla-Walla County Chieftain, La Grande Observer and Baker City Herald.

Cutler will team with Karline Brogoitti, the regional publisher of the La Grande Observer and Baker City Herald, to oversee the company's east side publications. In March, Brogoitti was named regional sales director for EO Media Group's east side operations.

Born in Pocatello, Idaho, and raised in Fruitland, Idaho, Cutler, 48, has long had his roots in the Northwest and spent five years as the editor of the La Grande Observer prior to joining the East Oregonian.

Cutler got his start in journalism as a senior sportswriter for Ontario's Argus Observer in 2000 before being promoted to sports editor shortly after in 2001. He then spent time on the Boise State University sports beat for the Idaho Press-Tribune before returning to the Argus Observer in 2004 in a dual role as sports and news editor.

Cutler later spent time as managing editor of the Capital Journal in South Dakota, where he and his newsroom were awarded the 2008 South Dakota Newspaper Association General Excellence Award for the state's daily newspapers with a circulation under 16,000. It was the first time the Capital Journal had earned the award in 126 years of existence.

Cutler was also a part of general excellence award-winning newsrooms at the Argus Observer and Rapid City Journal, and he led the La Grande Observer to a second-place finish in general excellence for the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association Division C category.

While in La Grande, Cutler spent three years in a joint role as editor and publisher.

"Andrew Cutler's knowledge of Eastern Oregon, and his experience as both an editor and publisher, made him the logical successor to head up the company's editorial team in this region and take on the publisher role here in Umatilla County as well," Brown said.

A 1990 graduate of Fruitland High School, Cutler joined the U.S. Army in 1991 and served as a combat medic in Germany, Fort Stewart, Georgia, and Honduras before his discharge in 1995. He went on to earn an associates of arts degree from Treasure Valley Community College in 2000 and a bachelor of arts degree in multidisciplinary studies from Boise State University in 2016.

Northeast Oregon forests seeking members for Resource Advisory Committee

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee is seeking nominees for new members to serve on a vital Resource Advisory Committee.

The committee is tasked with recommending projects to improve forest health, watersheds, roads and facilities around Malheur, Umatilla, and Walla-Whitman national forests, according to a press release.

The projects that are funded through the RAC are important to the communities of Northeast Oregon and are varied in focus and scope, ranging from fish passage restoration to constructing new trails. Beyond getting important work done, projects have also utilized

youth crews which provide young people with unique opportunities to develop a love of the outdoors while gaining valuable hands-on work experience.

RAC committee members are officially appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture for a term of two years, and although they cannot be compensated for their work, members can get reimbursed for travel expenses to, during and from meetings. In order to ensure that the group can accomplish its goals, members are expected to participate in two full-day meetings each year. Residents of Baker, Crook, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Union, Walla and Wheeler counties are particularly encouraged to submit applications, although

others may apply.

RACs have been found to work best when many interests and industries are represented by their members. Recreation groups, environmental groups, industry leaders and employees, tribal representatives, elected officials and local residents are all needed to provide a balanced and diverse group.

The three categories of committee members needed are: A) Industry professionals with experience in forest products, recreation, mining, grazing or timber; B) environmental groups and individuals connected to groups interested in wild horses, archeology and dispersed recreation; and C) elected officials, American Indian tribal representatives and school officials or teachers. Nominations will be

accepted until Sept. 30.

Nominations must contain a completed application packet that includes the nominee's name, resume, and completed Form AD-755 (Advisory Committee or Research and Promotion Background Information). The package must be sent to: Malheur National Forest, Prairie City Ranger District, Attention: SRS RAC, P.O. Box 337, Prairie City, OR 97869.

The Form AD-755 may be obtained from the following SRS RAC website: fs.usda.gov/main/pts/specialprojects/racs.

For more information, contact Ed Guzman, Northeast Oregon forests designated federal official, at 541-820-3801 or edward.r.guzman@usda.gov.

OTEC announces trade and lineman school scholarship recipients

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative has awarded five local students scholarships to attend either a trade school or lineman school.

Luke Barnes and Tristain Pogue, both from Baker City, were recently each awarded a \$5,000 OTEC scholarship to pursue a career as a lineman.

Cole Furtney of Baker City, Opie McDaniel of John Day and Tayler Wood of Baker City were each

awarded a \$2,500 OTEC scholarship to attend trade school.

Scholarship winners are selected by the cooperative's board of directors from a pool of candidates from OTEC's service territory in Baker, Grant, Harney and Union counties. Scholarship funds come from unclaimed capital credits.

Applications for both trade and lineman school scholarships are open year-round at otec.coop/scholarships.

Area students graduate from OSU

Blue Mountain Eagle

More than 7,000 students representing all 50 states and 73 countries have earned degrees as part of Oregon State University's class of 2020.

While Oregon State's traditional commencement ceremonies were postponed in keeping with the university's measures to help reduce the risk and spread of COVID-19, the graduating students are being celebrated this month online. To watch celebratory messages and learn more about the Oregon State class of 2020, visit commencement.oregonstate.edu.

This year's class includes 7,181 total graduates earning 7,452 degrees, with 267 peo-

ple earning double degrees and two receiving three degrees. With this year's graduates, Oregon State has now awarded 265,147 degrees in the university's history.

From John Day, Jennifer I. McCloskey earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts, summa cum laude, in applied visual arts, and Taylor A. McCluskey earned a Bachelor of Science in biology.

From Mt. Vernon, Skylar Powell earned a Bachelor of Science in agricultural sciences.

From Seneca, Kelsey D. Long earned a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology, and Joshua T. Walker earned a Bachelor of Science in natural resources.

Vet clinic to host spay, neuter clinic

Blue Mountain Eagle

John Day River Veterinary Center will host its annual spay and neuter clinic July 14-15.

Dogs will be treated July 14, and cats will be treated July 15.

To make an appointment at the clinic, call 541-932-4428.



Sue Orr

July 26, 1945 ~ June 17, 2020

Sue Orr, 74, passed away at her home of 33 years in Prairie City surrounded by her family.

Sue was born in Caldwell, Idaho to Maurice Claire Hire and Elaine K. "Kitty" (Combs) Hire. They named her Claire Elaine but always called her Suzy. The family lived in Caldwell and Baker City. In 1952 her mom and stepfather Harvey Spivey moved the family to live in a cozy cabin at Camp 5 logging camp; her most cherished memories are here leaping from the dock into the lake.

Sue graduated from Wheeler County High School in Fossil, Oregon in 1964. She married David Mattison and raised two daughters in Kinzua where she loved to play pinochle, sew, and crochet until it closed in 1979. She lived in Heppner and worked for Central Market until she married Gordon Orr in July 1987. They moved to Prairie City where they had a lovely home and yard. Sue spent 50 years following the Portland Trail Blazers.

Survivors include her husband, Gordon; daughters Jodi (Matt) Ferguson of Walla Walla; Robin Mattison of Pendleton; Pamela (Russ) Orr-Powell of John Day; sons, Mike (Gina) Orr and Greg Orr of Winnemucca; Jeff Orr of Heppner; grandchildren: Connor & Brett Ferguson of Walla Walla; Mikaela (Alley) Conway of Huson, Montana; Brett Alley of La Grande; Casey, Chase and Justin Orr of Winnemucca; Jaden Orr; Megan (Orr) Fischer of Hermiston; Cody Orr of Isle, Minnesota; seven great-grandchildren; brothers, Robert (Laura) Hire of Heppner and Frank Spivey of Baker City; sister-in-law's Norma Roberts of Biggs, CA and Earlene Dillard of Bend.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sons, Joseph Mattison and David Orr; brother, Bill Roberts and sister, Lois Colleen Hire.

Memorial contributions can be made to Blue Mountain Hospice through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To leave an online condolence for the family, visit: www.driskillmemorialchapel.com

Paid for by the family of Sue Orr
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Dale Franklin Heaton

June 19, 1934 ~ June 19, 2020

Paid for by the family of Dale Heaton

Dale Heaton passed away on June 19th, the morning of his 86th birthday, at home surrounded by his family. Dale was born in 1934 to Wayne and Alice Heaton. He grew up in his beloved hometown of Bates, Oregon, with his four brothers and sisters, spending his days raising heck with his lifelong best friends, Dave Connolly, Gene Larkin, and Denny Cook. In 1952, Dale graduated from Prairie City High School and joined the Air Force. His military service took him to London, where he encountered a dark-haired beauty named Toni Lumley, who would accompany him back to Bates and spend the next 63 years by his side.

Dale left his job at the Edward Hines Lumber Company after 11 years, and he and Toni moved from Bates to Boise in 1968 with their two children. He spent the next 30 years working in the Albertsons ice cream plant, much to his grandkids' joy. Eastern Oregon was never far from Dale's mind, however. After several years in Boise, they purchased land near Sumpter, and with the help of friends and family, Dale built the summer cabin that would be the centerpiece of favorite family memories for the next 35 years.

Dale's greatest passions were photography and the kids in his life. With seven granddaughters and twelve great-grandkids, he was never short on subjects. He spent hours in the editing room, so everyone could see what it would have been like if Toni had met celebrities like Marilyn Monroe or George and Laura Bush, or if his great-grandson really had been a toddler farmer. The legacy of a nearly forgotten mill town lives on, thanks in part to the countless hours of video Dale put together honoring his hometown and the people who lived there.

In 2011 Dale and Toni moved to Scappoose, Oregon, so that they could be closer to family. Dale spent the last nine years coaching all of the babies in the art of the great high-five. He was an amazing husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. He will be greatly missed.

Dale is survived by his wife, Toni; his brothers, Wayne Heaton and John Heaton; sisters Peg (Larry) Auld, and Polly Dockweiler; kids Dave (Sandee) Heaton and Deanne (Wade) Evans; grandchildren Ami (Kirk) Halvorson, Lindsay (Neil) Elder, Chelsea (Derrick) Vargason, Jennifer (Josh) Heaton-Rounsville, Samantha Dale (Andrew) Cooper, Alyona (Phillip) Merriman, and Olya (Kyle) Evans; and his twelve great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Please sign our online guestbook at www.columbiafh.com.

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	92/55
Wednesday	82/59
Thursday	85/53
Friday	90/53
Saturday	80/52
Sunday	55/46
Monday	70/48

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 JULY 1-7

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Sunny	Sunny	Slight chance of thunderstorms	Slight chance of thunderstorms	Sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny
69	76	86	87	85	84	85
46	50	52	53	52	46	50