

Emergency rental assistance program open for applications

Blue Mountain Eagle

Qualified renters can submit applications to the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program (OERAP) for funding to pay rent, rent arrears, future rent and certain home utility costs, according to a press release.

“For the first time, renters can access rental assistance through a statewide, centralized application portal,” says Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Executive Director Margaret Salazar. “Together with our community-based partners, we are prioritizing resources toward our most vulnerable households to help keep Oregonians in their homes during these challenging times.”

OHCS is coordinating with OERAP local administrators — 17 community action agencies and one public housing authority — across the state

to emphasize an equitable approach in the processing of applications and distribution of funds. This coordinated partnership helps ensure OERAP makes the greatest impact on reducing housing instability and homelessness.

Every renter that applies will have their application reviewed, and relief resources will be distributed to those who meet the following federal eligibility requirements:

- have income less than 80% of area median income;
- have an individual in the household who has qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs or experienced other financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic;
- demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability due to past-due rent or utilities.

Federal guidance requires that grantees prioritize households with incomes less than 50% AMI and households with one or more members that have been unemployed for at least 90 days.

OHCS is using four factors in addition to these two, including: household size, months behind on rent, 2020 wildfire impact and if the household lives within a census tract identified by the nationally recognized Urban Institute Rental Assistance Priority Index as a census tract with a high prevalence of low income renters at risk of experiencing housing instability and homelessness due to COVID-19.

OHCS received approximately \$204 million in federal funds for this program. The city of Portland, and the counties of Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Lane and Marion received additional

federal Emergency Rental Assistance allocations that total approximately \$76 million and opted to accept applications from residents through their own application process. Applicants are prohibited from accepting payment from the same expense from different providers and are asked to select one program. All Oregonians are welcome to apply to OERAP. Tribal governments also received allocations directly from U.S. Treasury.

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis until 2022 or until program funds run out. In most cases, payment will be made directly to the landlord or utility provider. To find out additional information about criteria or to apply to the OERAP program visit oregonrentalassistance.org. For assistance contact the local Community Connection of Northeast Oregon office: 541-575-2949.

OBITUARIES

Helen Marie Bogart

Helen Marie Bogart, age 97, passed away on Dec. 21, 2020, in Spokane Valley, Washington. A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2021, at Clyde Holliday State Park in Mt. Vernon.

Memorial contributions may be made to the John Day Senior Center through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To offer online condolences to her family, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

Robert Lee Butler

Robert Lee Butler, age 91, passed away Jan. 14, 2021, at his home in Baker City with family by his side. A graveside memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8, at Moon Creek Cemetery in Mt. Vernon, Oregon. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wounded Warriors Program or to the American Heart Association through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To leave online condolences for the family, visit grayswestco.com.

Homer L. Harrison

A celebration of life for Homer L. Harrison will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 5, 2021, at Clyde Holliday State Park. Bring a chair. If inclement weather, the celebration will be moved to the Mt. Vernon Grange Hall. Online condolences may be shared at tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com.

Donald L. Neugart

Oct. 6, 1946 – May 4, 2021

Donald L. Neugart, age 74, passed away May 4, 2021, at St. Alphonsus in Nampa, Idaho. No services are planned at this time.

Donald was born Oct. 6, 1946, in Coos Bay, Oregon to Ray and Leta (Ingram) Neugart. He graduated from Myrtle Point High School in 1964 and attended Southern Oregon University earning his bachelor's degree in business.

Donald served three years in the United States Army as a spec 4 upon his discharge. He went on to own and operate Land Title and Escrow in John Day, Oregon, retiring in 2006.

He was a member of the American Legion and enjoyed camping in his RV, sports, shooting and classic cars.

Survivors include his brother, Larry R. Neugart, of John Day, Oregon; nephews, Jeff Neugart of Chandler, Arizona, and Brad Neugart of Cold Spring, Minnesota.

To offer online condolences to Don's family, visit graywestco.com.

Carole Elaine Tucker

Carole Elaine Tucker, age 83, of Prairie City passed away on May 16, 2021, at Valley View Assisted Living in John Day. A memorial service will be held Sunday, May 30, at 2 p.m. at the Prairie City Assembly of God Church in Prairie City. Online condolences may be offered to her family at driskillmemorialchapel.com.

Iva E. Speelman

Iva E. Speelman, age 82, passed away on Dec. 3, 2020, at her residence in Prairie City. A potluck gathering will be held to celebrate her life on Saturday, May 29, 2021, home of her daughter, Elaine Livran, in Sumpter, Oregon beginning at noon. Online condolences may be made at driskillmemorialchapel.com.

Piano performance planned at Fossil Beds in June

Pianist Hunter Noack will perform concerts at the Cant Ranch at the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument at 6 p.m. June 26 and June 27.

A portion of the tickets are free for Grant County residents. The concert will be outdoors and following CDC Covid-19 guidelines.

Tickets are available at inandscape.org. Click on “Schedule & Tickets.” Click on “Live Events.” Scroll and click the preferred date. Click the green ticket button. Select the ticket that is for “Grant County Residents.”

Classical Music in the Wild is an outdoor concert series where America's most stunning landscapes replace the traditional concert hall. A 9-foot Steinway grand piano on a flatbed trailer is

brought to National Parks, urban greenspaces, working ranches, farms and historical sites for classical music concerts that connect people with each landscape.

To meet the acoustical challenges of performing in the wild, music is transmitted via wireless headphones. Attendees are not confined to seats and can explore the landscape, wander through secret glens, lie in sunny meadows and roam old growth forests.

Jason Leighton named to SNHU dean's list

Jason Leighton of John Day has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's winter 2021 dean's list. The winter term runs from January to May.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 are named to the dean's list. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits.

Attend a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Dinner and Benefit Auction

Where fun and fund-raising combine for a memorable evening.

Date: Saturday, June 5
Time: 4:00—Doors open
5:30—Dinner
7:30—Auction

Place: Pavilion—Grant County Fairgrounds

Ticket Information:
Gale Wall (541) 620-0455
Following Covid Guidelines

A great time for a great cause.
 Proceeds benefit elk and other wildlife.

Mtn. View Mini-Mart 211 Front St., Prairie City 541-820-4477

Weekly Specials

Sunday - Family Style Joy's Choice | Thursday - Asian | Saturday - Sushi

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POPPY BOOTH

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Thursday - Saturday, May 27-29
10AM - 4PM

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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.

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Blue Mountain Eagle MyEagleNews.com

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Barbara Joyce Weatherford Buce
 November 6, 1928 – May 15, 2021

Barbara Joyce Weatherford Buce, 92, of La Grande, passed on into heaven early the morning of May 15, 2021. A Memorial Service will be held at the Damascus Road Community Church in La Grande on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 11:00 am.

Barbara, better known as Bobby, or lovingly known as “The Queen” was born in The Dalles, Oregon on November 6th in the year of “Our Lord only knows”... (1928). She was well known for her sense of humor, fast paced lifestyle, generosity, timeless beauty, and she honestly believed everything should be covered in diamonds or “bling blings” as she called them. She was a classy lady who grew up driving a wheat truck on her family's ranch in Olex, Oregon. She attended Arlington High School and later Northwest Nazarene College. On the fifty yard line of that same high school, Bobby married her sweetheart Thomas A. Buce, at sunrise on Easter Morning in April 1950. They had three children, then moved to Corvallis where Barbara worked to put Tom through school at OSU.

Tom's employment at Boeing airlines moved the family to Seattle, Washington where they resided until retirement. Her career in Seattle involved owning her own real estate company, where she flipped houses using her incredible interior design skills.

Even after Bobby was retired, she never stopped being active. In her later years, she enjoyed traveling. Whether it was on a cruise, or somewhere around the world, but her heart always belonged on her ranch in Grant County on Rudio Mountain. Her last chapter was moving to La Grande, Oregon where she attended church and made many new friends.

Bobby is survived by her three children, Alana Durand (Bill), Heidi Zimmerlee-McCrory, and Tom M. Buce (Carol); grandchildren, Tara Edwards (Scott), Bobbi Durand, Molly Williams (Josh), Jake Buce (Megan); great grandchildren, Garret Halverson, Gavin Zimmerlee, and Amelia Edwards. She was preceded in death by her mother and father Frank and Daisy Weatherford; siblings, Earl and Gayle Weatherford; grandchildren, Shannon Zimmerlee-Halverson and Jamie Zimmerlee; great grandchild, Charlotte Edwards.

Online condolences may be made to the family at: www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com.

Paid for by the family of Barbara Buce

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	65/46
Wednesday	56/40
Thursday	53/38
Friday	49/40
Saturday	46/37
Sunday	66/40
Monday	65/43

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 MAY 26-JUNE 1

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Sunny	Partly sunny	Sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Partly sunny
70	71	67	74	80	86	93
46	42	41	43	48	44	54