

APRIL

The Community Breeze

2025

Serving the North Lake Communities of Christmas Valley, Fort Rock, Silver Lake, Summer Lake & Paisley & Southern Deschutes County

Published by Precision Mail Services

Visit us on-line thecommunitybreeze.com

terryonitswayhome@gmail.com



Comings and Goings

By Terry Crawford


Well if this hasn't been a crazy beginning to spring. I had planned to be riding my horse, Beach boy, in the March 15-16 Working Equitation competition in Eugene but having had no ride time for months and a dismal weather forecast I opted out and instead volunteered once again to work as the gate steward-which makes for a very long day. The competition is in a covered arena at the Oregon Horse Center, but that does not translate to warm and it was not even sort of warm. So glad I was wearing snowboard pants, winter boots and lots of layers on top. The up side is that the level of riding and skill at this show reflected how much the sport has grown in the past several years.

I stay in Junction City with my good friend Beverly, and even when she is out of town, as she was, I can still enjoy her lovely home and amazing 50 acre farm in wine country above the City.

On Sunday, while still working the gate, I got a call from her saying not to drive home, that the roads were a mess and she would be getting home later from her mini-vacation to Arizona. She was on I-5 and parts of it were under water. Highway 58, she reported had down trees, slides, wrecks and snow.


Then to add to the stress I got a call from friend Carol who was booking a flight from Southern California, as renting a car and driving home through the storms was no an option. I told her to fly into Eugene as I was literally just across the highway from the airport. Her flight was to arrive at 5:30 and I was done with my work about 20 minutes earlier. In the meantime I got another call to let me know that Highway 58 was now shut down. Well I picked up Carol and off we went to the farm. Bev got there shortly after, and we all settled in and had a lite meal. Carol relaxed in on the couch unwinding while Bev and I played a couple of games of Gin before retiring. Monday morning we headed out and opted to come over Santiam via Hwy 242, the McKenzie pass.

Lovely drive home - no rain, no snow and quite a bit of sun.



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Alfred (JERRY) Freeman

March 26, 1938 ~ February 27, 2025

Alfred Jerry Freeman of Christmas Valley, died February 27, 2025 at his home surrounded by family at the age of 86.

Jerry and his wife Jolene moved to Christmas Valley 25 years ago, not long after Jerry retired as a backhoe operator for PG&E and others, a profession he held for 43 years. He was known as Backhoe Jerry.

Jerry was not one to sit around and so used his skill as a master backhoe operator to do work for George Schmidt. And then to prevent boredom he also worked for Warkentine Farms, swathing, checking pivots and other tasks as needed.

A long-time member of the "Early Bird (unofficial) Coffee Club" he enjoyed early morning visits with fellow area retirees.

An avid lover of the out of doors, Jerry enjoyed hunting, fishing, occasional target practice and sage rat shooting. He was a farm boy at heart.

Jerry greatly enjoyed exploring the vastness of the high desert on a quad or in the side-by-side and the same held true for the deserts of the southwest on winter sojourns to Arizona.

Jerry is survived by his wife Jolene with whom he shared his life for 64



Years; Son, Jerry Don Freeman of Klamath Falls; Son, Alan Ray Freeman of Salem and his wife Tami; Brothers Cecil (Dean) Freeman and Larry (Dusty) Freeman; In-laws, Carol Hamil and Bill Erwin, and four grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

A celebration of Jerry's life will take place at 11:00 AM on May 17, 2025 at the Christmas Valley Community Church (87921 Christmas Valley Highway, Christmas Valley, Oregon.

There will be a Pot Luck to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact the church office at 541-567-2757 for additional details.

Jolene has requested that contributions be made to the La Pine Hospice in Jerry's name. She says they were wonderful and enabled Jerry to spend his end of life transition in the home he loved with the people he loved and who loved him.

Guns and Rendezvous

By Marie Lee

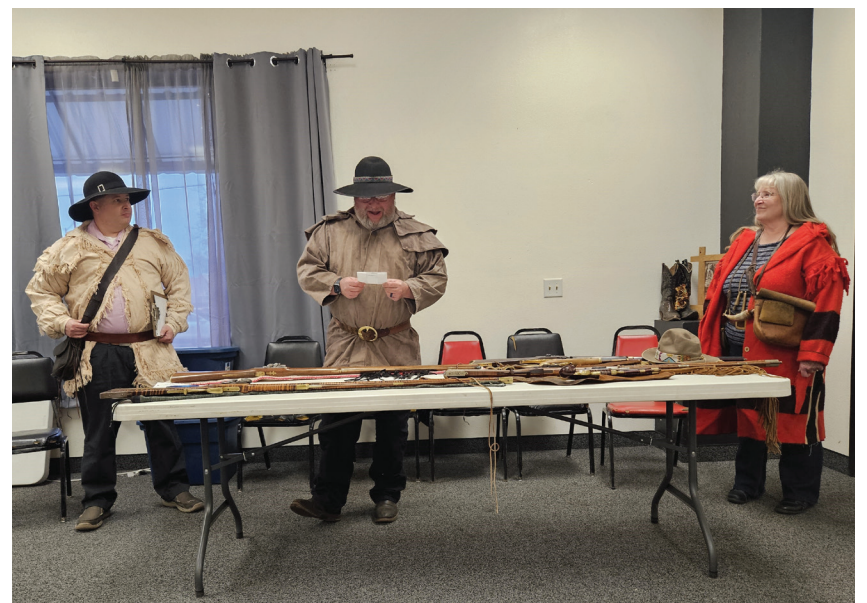


Guns, it turns out, are more interesting than I originally thought. Although I grew up on a ranch where hunting season was a national holiday, twice

World War II that came from an airplane wreckage.

During this past winter a new firearm location has been constructed in the Schminck house to better display that collection. When the museums reopen to the public on May 1, 2025 those guns will be located on the main floor, in Dalph Schminck's library. That display will be in a more accessible location with better lighting and more visibility.

Similar ideas often come to me in clusters and that was



married hunters, shot a few jackrabbits in my childhood and youth, I never got excited about guns. Lake County and Schminck Memorial Museums have provided me with a better education.

Located in the Schminck is a small but significant display of firearms. Mostly men, and a few women, admire that collection. During my first season as curator two portable machine guns were stored out of site in a nearby closet. Often, however, I showed them to individuals who showed a specific interest. One day a visitor asked if I wanted him to move the guns to where they could be seen and because they were too heavy for my strength, I readily agreed.

One is a World War I machine gun donated to Dalph Schminck by Pearl Hall, Dr. Daly's companion, when she sorted through Dr. Daly's personal items. It is an interesting German model with a large water cylinder to cool the barrel. The other is an air-cooled American model from

the case when Gene Hedlund, local black powder enthusiast and President of Lake County Museum Board of Directors, presented a program at the historical society meeting about his family's collection of reproduced muzzle-loading guns. Assisted by his wife, Kathy, and their son, Jeff, all three dressed in traditional fur trading era costumes, Lake County Historical Society was taken backward in time to those Rocky Mountain Rendezvous when trappers, mountain men, and Native Americans gathered to trade hides and replenish their supplies.

As far back as the 1600s when Europeans and Russians began traipsing through the wilderness areas of our North American continent, trappers and gold seekers wandered about this Lake County area. In time, fur trading companies blossomed into large, well-known enterprises such as the Hudson-Bay Company and companies owned by the

See Rendezvous, page 3

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Rendezvous

Astor family. As they moved into areas that eventually became the United States it became more profitable to establish rendezvous sites in the wild rather than persist that individual trappers bring their hides to company forts and compounds.

From June 13 through June 21, 2025 the Pacific Primitive Rendezvous will gather on the Chewaucan River near Paisley, Oregon. Their gathering will replicate those original fur trading rendezvous held from approximately 1825 through 1840. These modern-day rendezvous are carefully controlled by black powder clubs as they replicate original activities of shooting muzzle-loading guns and shotguns, knife and tomahawk throwing, primitive archery, cooking, dancing, and telling of tall tales. All participants dress in replicas of that long-ago era's traditional clothing.

While the rendezvous can be a raucous time in some areas of the encampment, it is also a carefully controlled

family event that includes children. The Pacific Primitive Rendezvous has an easily found webpage describing what, where, and when it will take place. Although I have passed the day when my bodily aches and pains would tolerate such a rendezvous, I am tempted to see if I might be able to walk through their encampment, one day, for a few hours!

BOOKS BY
Marie Lee

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on Amazon

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Sunday, April 20

6:00 am Sunrise Service
Fort Rock State Park
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10:00 am Worship Service
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at the

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TO GET ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED ABOUT SCHEDULING GO TO THE CHAMBER'S WEB PAGE christmasvalleychamber.org and click on PICKLEBALL

There you will find a calendar - updated every two weeks - of times the hall is open for play.
For now, just call 541-480-0753

Soon we will have an interactive page on which players can communicate, book a time, or find a playing partner.

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It may seem as if PICKLEBALL is a pretty new sport but the sport has actually been around nearly 50 years. In 1965 what began as an improvised game to entertain family and friends slowly grew into a game that is played world wide. People of all ages and walks of life enjoy this all-inclusive sport and you are invited to join in the fun.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Notice is hereby given that on May 20, 2025, an election will be held for the purpose of electing board members to fill the following positions and terms, including any vacancy which may exist , on the boards of the following districts.

Lake County Education Service District

At Large #2 4-year term Currently held by Stefani Roseberry
 Zone 2 4-year term Currently held by Dale Chiono
 Zone 3 4-year term Currently held by Sam Hall
 Zone 5 4-year term Currently held by Jim Hiatt

Adel School District 21

Position 2 4-year term Currently held by Jim Hiatt
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Terry Cahill
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Peter Osborne

Lake County School District 7

Position 1 4-year term Currently held by Darwin Johnson
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Teresa Shine
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Scott Havel

North Lake School District 14

Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Mark Herincks
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Scott Duffner

Paisley School District 11

Position 3 4-year term Currently held by James VanBelle
 Position 4 4-year term Currently held by Glen Newton

Plush School District 18

Position 1 4-year term Currently held by Bill Black
 Position 2 2 years remaining on a 4 year term
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Brendan Fitzgerald
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Taylor Utley

Christmas Valley Rural Fire Protection District

(all positions are currently filled with appointees so all are open for election)

Position 1 2-years remaining on a 4 year term
 Position 2 4-year term
 Position 3 4-year term
 Position 4 2-years remaining on a 4 year term
 Position 5 4-year term

Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Sam Steward
 Position 4 4-year term Currently held by Dave Knowles
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Chuck Graham

New Pine Creek Rural Fire Protection District

Position 2 4-year term Currently held by Butch Suchon
 Position 4 4-year term Currently held by Kathy Delaney
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Randy Lawson

Silver Lake Rural Fire Protection District

Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Shirley Crawford
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Thomas Roark

Thomas Creek/Westside Rural Fire Protection District

Position 1 2-years Remaining on a 4-year term
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Kevin Sterba
 Position 4 4-year term Currently held by Paul Houret

Christmas Valley Domestic Water Supply District

Position 1 4-year term Currently held by Stephen Hilger III
 Position 2 2-years remaining on a 4-year term
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Dave Uran
 Position 4 2 years Remaining on a 4-year term

Lake County Library District

At Large 1 4-year term Currently held by Melissa Maxwell
 At Large 2 4-year term Currently held by Deb Diment
 Zone 1 4-year term Currently held by Mary Baker

Christmas Valley Park & Recreation District

Position 2 2-years remaining on a 4-year term
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Barbara Ferrando
 Position 5 4-year term

Lake Health District

Position 1 4-year term Currently held by Jerald Steward
 Position 4 4-year term Currently held by Don Liddycoat
 Position 5 2-years Remaining on a 4-year term

North Lake Health District

Position 1 4-year term Currently held by Deanna Roberts
 Position 2 4-year term Currently held by Daniel Miles
 Position 5 4-year term Currently held by Nathaniel Church

Lake County Cemetery Maintenance District

Position 2 4-year term Currently held by Pierre Hoppe
 Position 3 4-year term Currently held by Kristine Funk

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Deadline: The 20th the month

Is published monthly and mailed to all deliverable addresses in Oregon's northern Lake County's communities. The Publisher is Precision Mail Services. Our mailing address is 85450 Christmas Valley Hwy., Silver Lake, Oregon 97638. Readers may also read the *Breeze* on line by going to thecommunitybreeze.com

Editor: Terry Crawford 541-480-0753 - terryonitsway@aol.com

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Editorial commentary is welcome and all letters to the editor that are clearly signed with the writer's full legal signature and also include the writer's phone number will be considered for publication.

The following criteria will be applied equally to all submissions in determining a letter's appropriateness for publication: Letters may not include personal attacks, inappropriate language, libelous content, negativity which serves no other purpose than to harm or unverifiable facts. Letters are limited to 300-600 words. Letters may not promote businesses - to do so is considered advertising.

The Community Breeze neither supports or condemns any ideas, creeds, religions, customs, attitudes or beliefs and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of its editor or its advertisers.

Please mail Letters to the Editor to *The Community Breeze* ATTN: Terry Crawford, 85450 Christmas Valley Highway, Silver Lake, OR 97638.

The Community Breeze Political and Election Policy

Being a monthly publication, The Community Breeze does not print letters or commentary tied to political races and elections. To do so is to short circuit a candidate's ability to respond in a timely framework. We do accept paid political ads and paid candidate ads and always advise rival candidates when their opponent(s) place an ad as a way to ensure they have the opportunity to been seen at the same time. So please take time to study the issues and have your voice heard by voting.

Letters to the Editor

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the Lake County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 6:00pm, by Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84185606888> or in-person at the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room of the County Courthouse at 513 Center Street, Lakeview, Oregon, to receive public comment and testimony on the following applications. Failure to raise an issue at the hearing or to provide sufficient specificity precludes your ability to appeal the decision to the Board of Commissioners. If you have needs requiring special arrangements, please call 541-947-6036 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 25-018-CUP

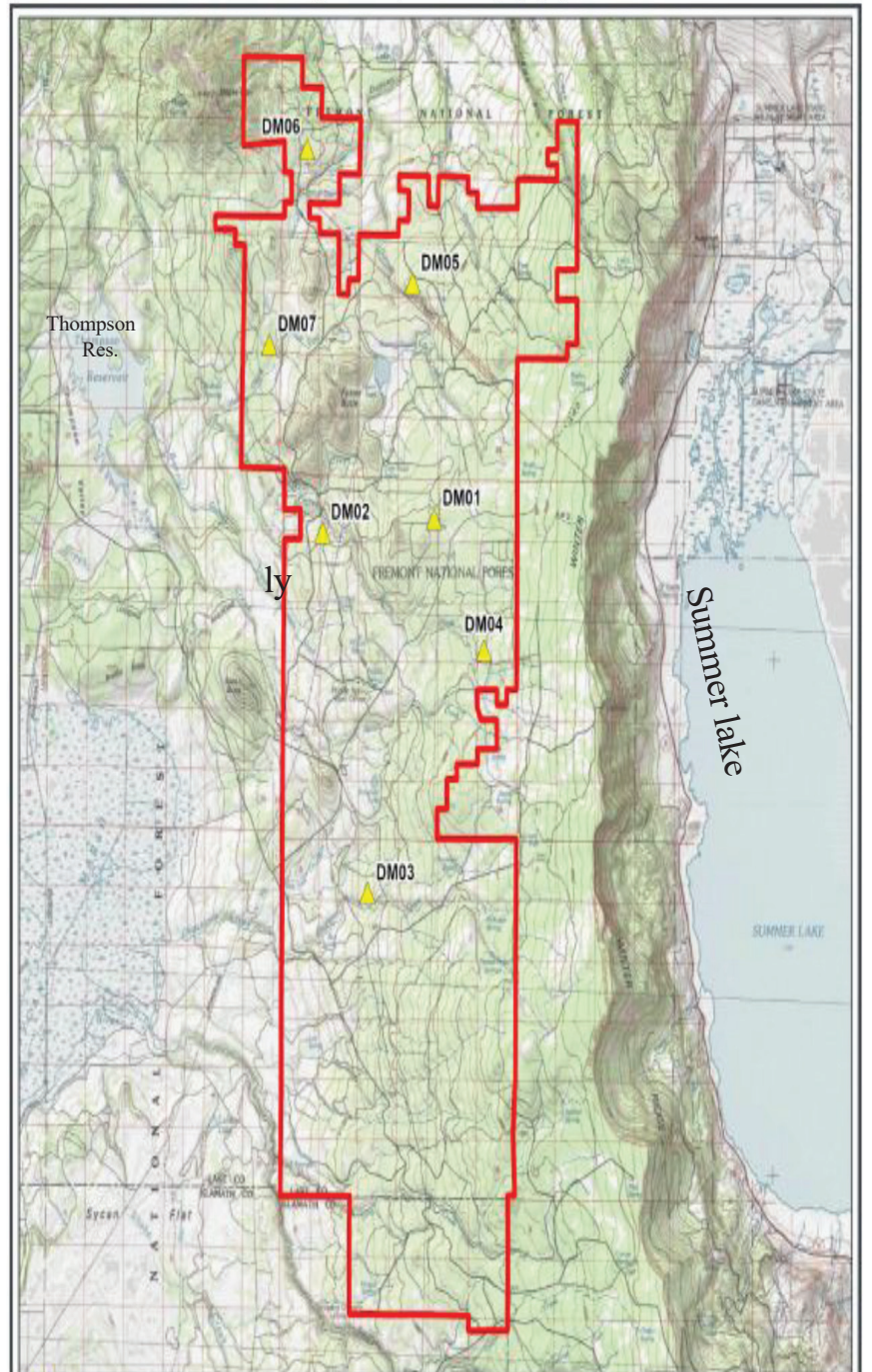
Public Hearing concerning an application by Robert A Phinney to establish a Non-Farm Dwelling on a 38.20-acre parcel, described as T27S R18E S- TL3100, approximately 8 miles east of Christmas Valley, at the corner of CV Hwy, and View Point Road/Fossil Lake Road, to the northeast corner of the property; in an A-2 Agriculture Use zone, with a Comprehensive Plan Designation of A – Agriculture. A decision will be based on Articles 3 and 24 of the amended Lake County Zoning Ordinance of 1980, and applicable OAR and ORS.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. 22-022-CUP

Public Hearing concerning an application by NextEra Energy Resources LLC, to establish seven (7) Meteorological Evaluation Towers (MET) on property owned by Green Diamon Resource Company, described as six (6) individual tax lots, T30S R14E TL1300, 30-15-200, 31-15-300, 500 and 700, and 32-15-100, west of Summer Lake, in a F-1 Forest Use zone, with a Comprehensive Plan Designation of F – Forest. A decision will be based on Articles 5 and 24 of the amended Lake County Zoning Ordinance of 1980, and applicable OAR and ORS.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION

Seven meteorological evaluation towers (MET) are planned to be installed in Lake County, Oregon at the locations shown in Figure A-1 and described in Table A-1. All tax lots are privately-owned and NextEra Energy has obtained leases on these properties for the purpose of developing a wind energy facility. The METs will be installed across six individual tax lots which combined include a total of 21,376.84 acres of land zoned “F-1, Forest Use Zone”, according to the Lake County Zoning Ordinance. Each 60-meter-tall MET has a base plate of 10.2 sq. ft. and 12 guy anchors as shown in Figure A-2. The total footprint of each MET with guy anchors is 328 feet.



Bee-Cuzz You Asked MARCH and the Bees

By Gary A. Brain Summer Lake Apiaries

What can I say? March Madness. March came in like a lamb for oh about 10 days and then decided to go into full winter mode! More snow than we've seen in quite some time and lots of rain! During those few days of 50 degrees I managed to do a quick look-see and found the girls were doing quite well.

I added winter feed patties (see picture) and put out a bucket of 1 to 1 sugar syrup with some Pro Feed supplement to kick start the girls. They emptied about four gallons in as many days!

I also fed them a pollen substitute. That will stimulate the Queen Mother to increase egg laying. The girls went ballistic trying to determine if they should be gathering or staying inside. "Beware the Ides Of March" so they say. Sooo, the age-old mantra is Feed, Feed, Feed!

March is when many hives will starve out. I have had strong hives make it through a tough winter like this one and starve out just bee-cuz of my neglect.

Feeding at this time *IS* an emergency. Do not let your guard down just bee-cuz there are some days of mosquito hatching weather.



On good days, above 55 degrees, inspect your hive! No fooling, this is the best way to see if you have issues. Just a bit of well-earned advice, the girls may be somewhat aggressive as they are expending lots of energy flying around and not bringing back the much-needed stores so, remember to keep your suits sipped up and your cuffs tight.

The Queen Mother is getting into high gear, laying as many eggs as she can to replace the winter fatties (the fall girls) that are not so plump right now. Bee kind and

remember them, they gave their all to get the hive through a nasty winter.

The girls are trying to get out and get as much pollen as they can find, which is a challenge in March. But at least the Aspens are starting to producing catkins which will give the girls a source of pollen. The entire hive should return to almost normal operation now, but the increased population is in desperate need of FOOD!

Two things to consider: The Queen Mother will get into high gear by producing replacement workers which

will tend to produce early swarming and will place huge demands on food sources and will also cause a great need for brood chambers.

You should reverse your brood chambers as needed. This is very important, as the Queen Mother needs more space to lay eggs. Just move the top brood chamber to the bottom and remember to clean the bottom board of dead girls. Thank them for getting the hive through the winter.

Remember to put supers on the strongest hives this time of year as this may improve your chances of the hive not swarming by increasing much needed expansion space for the colony and may give you and the girls some extra honey this fall.

You should also consider splitting strong hives, I will go into that procedure next month. I have two hives that I will split this April to increase the "herd".

See you in April where we will chat about taking care of the package bees or nucs you ordered in as well as chatting about splits.

Bee safe and enjoy any sunny days(??) ahead!

Gary and I have learned to love Thai Curry, not very hot but spicy. And now we have discovered Indian Chicken Curry as well. Hope you find this one pot dish as delicious and easy as we do.

INDIAN CHICKEN CURRY (4 servings)

Ingredients:

- 3 TBSP Olive Oil
- 1 small Onion, chopped
- 2 cloves fresh Garlic, minced
- 3 TBSP Curry Powder.
- (Alternative: Salt Sisters Curry in a Hurry)
- 1 tsp ground Cinnamon
- 1 tsp Paprika
- 1 Bay Leaf
- 1/2 tsp grated fresh Ginger Root
- 1/2 tsp Sugar
- Salt to taste
- 1 Chicken Breast halves, cubed (or equivalent other pieces)
- 1 TBSP Tomato Paste
- 1 Cup Sour Cream
- 3/4 Cup Coconut Milk

- 1/2 Lemon, juiced
- 1/2 tsp Cayenne Pepper (optional but it adds brightness)

Assemble and prepare all the ingredients to make this recipe go together easily. Then begin:

In large skillet heat EVOO and sauté chopped Onion and Garlic til tender. Add all the Herbs and Spices and cook til fragrant, 2-3 minutes. Add Chicken pieces and continue cooking on medium til Chicken is browned, another few minutes.

Stir in Tomato Paste, Sour Cream, Coconut Milk and Lemon juice. Add Cayenne Pepper if desired.

Simmer over low heat for 15-20 minutes or until Chicken is done and all the flavors have melded.

Serve over hot, cooked brown Basmati Rice, and serve with a Green Vegetable, and a Crisp Salad.

Enjoy!

Marie Brain
The Flyway Restaurant



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Our Homestead In the Canyon

Now Succor Creek State Park in Malheur County Oregon

Authored by Ida Dutcher

Editor's Note:

As some of you may have noticed, the continued serialization of Mrs. Dutcher's book did not have new chapters last month. This is because during my winter cleaning and recycling frenzy the book somehow made it into the recycling and I couldn't find a copy anywhere - it had been out of print for so long. However, thanks to Silver Lake Librarian, Audrey Arballo, an ancient copy, possibly the book's first printing was located. So now the story continues.



OUR WINTER CAMP

Later on that fall we decided to move farther down the canyon where we could keep better watch on the stock.

from our present camp this move had to be by pack horses as no road went further. This was even a hard trip with the horses as some of the trails were so narrow.

By this time we had built a fence across the canyon so the stock couldn't stray to the south and the lower trail was closed by a very small pair of bars. One could get through with a saddle horse down this way. In places where the stock could go up over the top of the rims Willard spend days building rock fences to keep them in. Some of these fences still remain after all these years.

there had been a nitrate mine below the canyon but it was closed down by the time we moved there and a few of the buildings still remained.

We took more time in fixing up this camp as it was to be our winter home. We dug down in the hill side to make a wall then stretched our tent over it. We carried some old boards from the mine and built on the front for a kitchen and built a cupboard for the dishes and food. We built another sheep corral mostly of rock as the willows were not so thick here. The hill sides here were steep so it was more work to herd the sheep than it had been before.

OUR FIRST WINTER

By Thanksgiving we were well established for the winter months ahead of us. Willard had a long trap line set out and was doing well as there was a \$5 dollar bounty paid by the state on coyotes and the county paid \$3. Also the pelts brought a good price and there was also a bounty paid on bobcats but not as much as the coyote.

Willard caught a coon

the day before Thanksgiving and it looked so good wen he skinned it out that we thought it would be good to eat. So I made dressing and roasted it. It looked and smelled so good, but when we started to eat it I looked and Willard and he looked at me and the longer we ate the bigger it got in our mouths and we just couldn't swallow it. So we gave up truing but when we took it away from the little girl she cried and couldn't understand why we took it from her.

Willard would go to Caldwell, Idaho, occasionally for supplies and to cash in on the coyote bounty and sell the pelts. He usually rode his saddle horse and took a pack horse and would be gone three or four days. I always dreaded these times although I wasn't so afraid any more. I still had not learned to saddle or ride a horse and did not care to go to town on these long hard trips with the children and I knew nothing about the surrounding country.

On the day before Christmas Willard left to go over his trap

Continued on page 13

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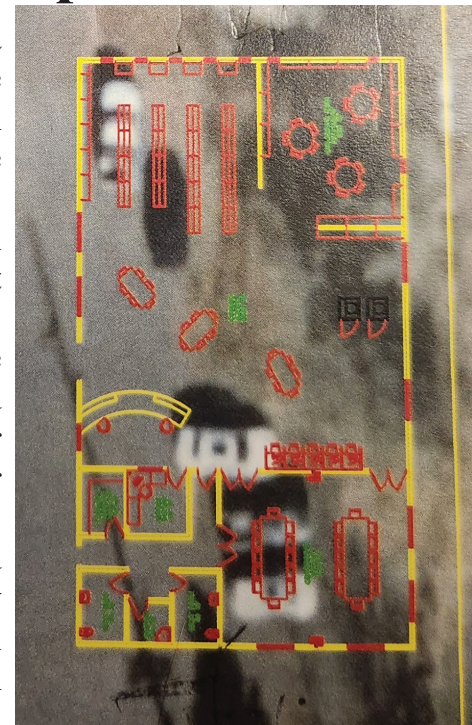
Cell: 541-480-6461

Library Update

Tentative Floor Plan for a 2200 SQ foot Building to be located on the County's Annex property adjacent to Flowerree Park. Being considered is placing the New-Construction building in front of the current Annex building or behind it.

The footprint would be the same but one placement would be vertical, as shown, the other would be horizontal and closer to the park.

This rendition was presented at the recent Lake County Commissioner's meeting in Christmas Valley on March 19, 2025.



BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED:

Most local governments in Oregon, from the smallest Cemetery district to the largest city, must prepare and adopt an annual budget. Schools, counties, cities, rural fire protection districts, and most special districts are all subject to the same budget provisions.

Each district forms a Budget Committee made of the Districts board members and an equal number of

Appointed electors. The appointed electors must meet the following guidelines:

- Electors are registered voters in the district
- Cannot be officers, agents, or employees.
- All members have the same authority
- Appointed for staggered 3-year terms
- If the district can't fill all appointed members, the Committee can be fewer. Many times the budget committees are only the board members as we have no volunteers to serve.

Budget Committee Members are needed for the following Districts:

Christmas Valley Park & Recreation District ~ Meetings to be held as follows:
 Budget Committee meetings April 8 and May 13th, at 9:00am
 Budget Hearing – June 10 at 9:00 am.
 All meetings to be held at Christmas Valley Community Hall

Christmas Valley Rural Fire Protection District ~ Meetings to be held as follows:
 Budget Committee meetings April 8 and May 13th, at 1:00 pm
 Budget Hearing – June 10 at 1:00 pm.
 All meetings to be held at Patty Effingham LTC office on CV Hwy

North Lake Health District ~ Meetings to be held as follows:
 Budget Committee meetings April 7 and May 5, at 5:30pm
 Budget Hearing – June 2 at 5:30 pm.
 All meetings to be held at Health District Office
North Lake Health District

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the **North Lake Health District**, Lake County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 will be held at the District Office. The first budget committee meeting will take place on April 7, 2025 at 5:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 15 at the office of Patty Effingham LTC EA.

Christmas Valley Rural Fire Protection District

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the **Christmas Valley Rural Fire Protection District**, Lake County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 will be held at Patty Effingham LTC Office. The budget committee meeting will take place on April 8 at 1:00 PM. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 25 at the office of Patty Effingham LTC EA.

Christmas Valley Park & Recreation District

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the **Christmas Valley Park & Recreation District**, Lake County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 will be held at the CV Community Hall. The budget committee meeting will take place on April 8, 2025, 9:00 AM.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after April 15 at the district office.

The Prospector and his writing travel a path that has many curves and bends along the way, but in the end an interesting destination is reached. So spend a little time mulling over the journey and if you are curious like me, you may find yourself getting ready to do a little exploring.

GOLD: THE ORIGIN

People frequently forge that gold came from somewhere by means of a specific process. In addition, that it didn't just "happen", gold didn't come from the placer settings; it was placed there through different geologic events. But why and how did it get there?

First, let us learn a bit about gold. Gold is a naturally occurring metal, mineral and element. Not all metals are naturally occurring rather most metals have to be mixed with something to be usable. For instance, most people know steel is made of iron ore and carbon combined with oxygen, sometimes mixed with molybdenite, allowing the steel to be sharpened. Those metals did not pop out of the ground to create steel.

To achieve the desired outcome, you must mix the ores at the proper melting point. What does this have to do with gold? It shows how rare gold is.

Gold is super-conductive,

it has a hardness of about 3.5-4, and it is the most ductile and malleable of natural metals. Gold has a specific gravity (SG) of just over 19 for pure gold and 14-16 for lesser gold. To put this in perspective, the host rock that gold is in has an SG of about 2.5.

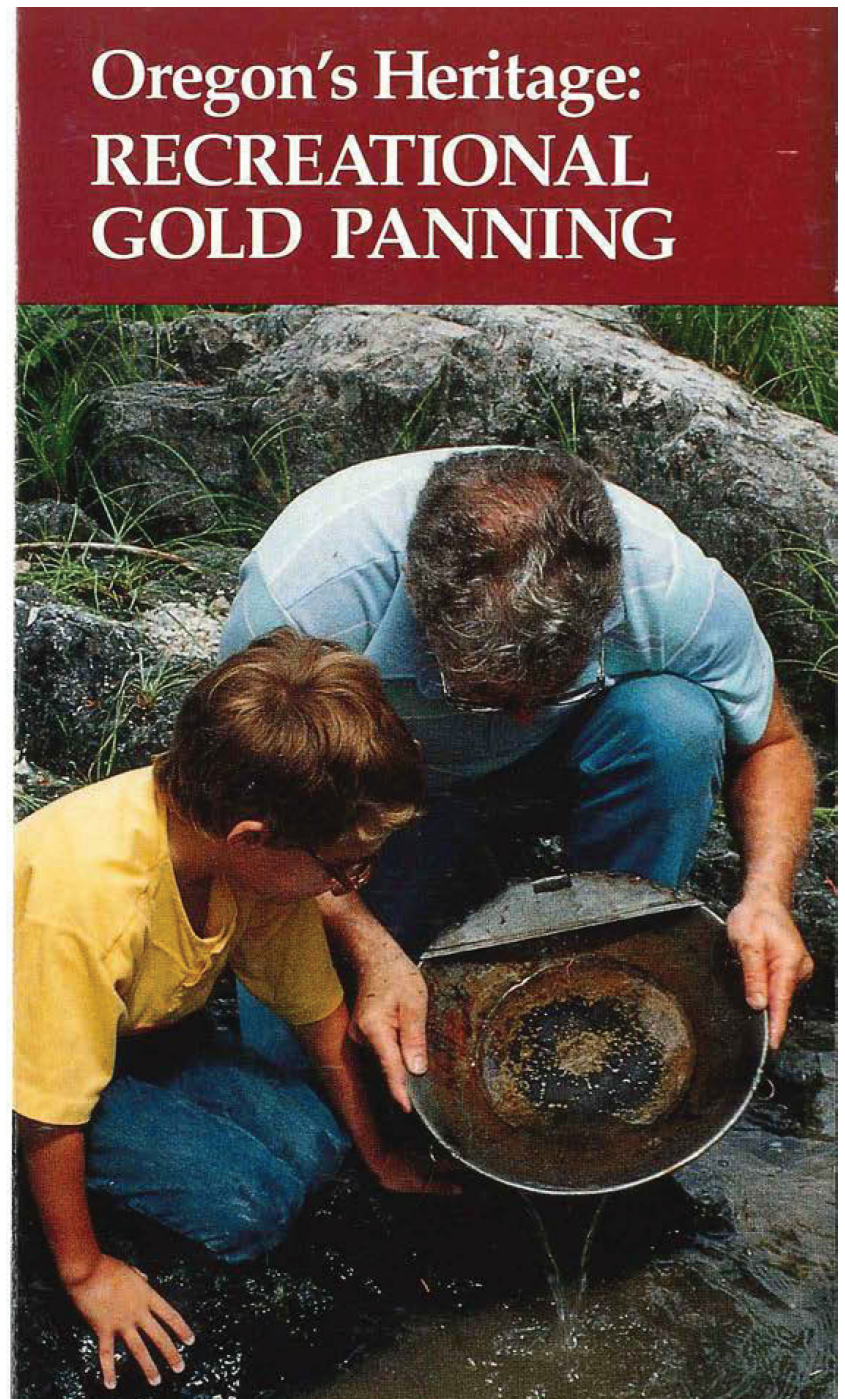
Through mechanical weathering, (The process of natural forces: wind, rain, rock falls, debris, flows, flooding and bigger rocks smashing other rocks), gold is released from the host rock. No longer trapped, it is free to flow, usually wherever the water takes it.

As we know that, the weight of gold keeps it in its place, even in high wind. You cannot blow gold around with a bunch of wind, but through the process of water and wind, gold can move quite a ways.

Scientists most widely

use the theory that gold came from the explosion of stars and supernovas. Gold is believed to be formed during extreme conditions, known as the r-process; aka, The Big Bang.

I believe the greatest advancement in prospecting EVER! Is the LiDAR, which stands for Light Detection and Ranging which is a fancy way of saying airplanes or drones fly over an area to build a profile of the surface topography from the data. The most valuable data



Oregon's Heritage: RECREATIONAL GOLD PANNING

When earth was in its molten state it was shot gunned with gold during its formation. This gold sank towards the Earth's core. The sun's nuclear fusion process is strong enough to make many elements, but not even the sun is strong enough to synthesize gold. Therefore, it is believed that the origin of continue searching using a modern (two years old or newer) to see if there is a larger cash nearby.

You do not need much 'corn' because the price of gold just passed \$2500 per troy ounce.

So where do I find this dry wash?

For us as prospectors is a DEM (digital elevation model), a highly accurate (sub 3ft vertical accuracy) model of the existing ground surface.

North Lake County is perforated with old mines that will clearly show up on LiDAR. We will use them as a starting point on our search for that dry wash. We will be looking at that mountain or hill as it came out of the ground in the beginning and learn where the ancient creeks flowed which are more than likely in higher elevation than the mine opening and possible miles from the mine. The ancient washes are where the big nuggets will be located.

Continued on Next Page

Call the Local Guys FIRST!

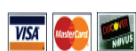
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How TO PAN FOR GOLD

Because gold is heavier than most sediments and gravel in a stream, it and other heavy minerals called “black sands” (including pyrite, magnetite, ilmenite, chromite, and garnet) can be collected in a gold pan when the right panning techniques are used.

First, get a gold pan from a hardware or department store or a store that specializes in mining equipment. Then take your pan to a likely location along a stream in a known gold-bearing area. You are looking for a gold trap - a place along the stream where the current slows down enough for the gold to settle out. Good possibilities are the insides of curves or streams (called point bars), areas where streams have overflowed, and on the downstream sides of boulders or other obstructions in the water. Once you find a good place, follow these steps to pan for gold:



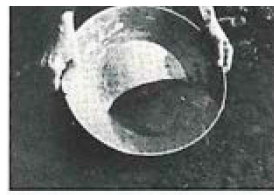
Fill the pan between about half and two-thirds full of soil, gravel, and small rocks from the stream bank or stream channel.



Put the pan under water, break up lumps of clay, and discard the stones.



Still holding it level under water with your hands on opposite sides rotate it half way back and forth rapidly to wash out the clay and concentrate the heavy material at the bottom of the pan.



Still holding the pan under water, tilt the pan forward, away from your body and down and away from your body to down slightly. Rotate and shake it to let the light gravel and sand dribble out of the front. Push top material and large chunks of rock out with your thumbs. Repeat steps 3-4 several times until a deposit of fine-grained dark material overlain by a smaller layer of light material remains at the bottom of the pan.

Take the pan with the residue and some water out of the stream. Rotate the pan in a circular motion, and watch carefully what is happening. The water is separating lighter from heavier material - and gold if it is present and

you are doing the panning properly, is lagging behind the other material at the bottom of the pan.

Stop the rotation. If you are lucky, you will see a few flecks of gold in the dark material that remains. Carefully drain out the water and let the black sand and gold dry. Lift out most of the black sand with a magnet, and separate the gold from the remainder of the sediments with tweezers.

LiDAR systems with multiple returns and higher pulse rates can help mitigate the impact of vegetation interference. Moreover, specialized processing techniques can be employed to filter out foliage and create more accurate ground elevation models. While LiDAR can provide valuable insights even in vegetated areas, the effectiveness depends on the specific conditions and technology used.



Pickleball at the Community Hall

Pickleball at the Community Hall has really taken off. That's right folks, the word is out. Pickle Ball is fun, fun, fun - and a great way to have social interaction while getting some much needed exercise.

On Sunday, March 23rd there were nine players, most of them beginners. Earl Dyfoon and his daughter Emily took on the role of instructors, and they are really good. The following Wednesday there were five players and on Thursday there were seven players. It just keeps gaining momentum.

The Community Hall is great for play because it is wind-free and holds a comfortable temperature. Additionally, it is easily accessed, has indoor plumbing and a level safe playing surface.

I have mentioned before that Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. Not only that, but it has gained so much popularity over the years that there are professional players and international competitions.

However, for the everyday player, many who are retirees, this sport has become a source of manageable exercise. By this I mean that players don't have to be crazy competitive and over exert themselves, but rather that they can allow play to sustain at a comfortable level for their fitness and agility.

Currently we are setting up a phone group-text where invites such as: Hey we are going to be playing at 11am on Monday so come on down or, Just found out the hall will be unavailable on certain dates as there is a payed event taking place.

Just a reminder that the net is always set up and against the

South wall and there is an old, green Amo box that has some paddles and balls in it that players are welcome to use, but we do encourage that as your interest continues you purchase your own equipment. You will find that it is of much better quality and will immediately improve your ability to place your shots.

I am just beginning to get the hang of close to the net play (not in the kitchen) volleying - I'm definitely not there yet, but boy is it fun to watch Earl and Emily practice those shots.

I did play two, one-on-one games with Dennis last Wednesday and he has really got some moves. I told him I am planning some new strategies to short circuit his wicked and very well placed cross-court returns.

Remember you can check the Chamber's web site at christmasvalleychamber.org to see what days and times are and are not available. And you call to get the hall opened for you if you are not meeting up with players that have access.

**Come on down!
Have fun!**





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Our Homestead In the Canyon

Now Succor Creek State Park in Malheur County Oregon

Authored by Ida Dutcher

Continued from page 8

line and on to the Rockville post office to get the mail. We were expecting some packages with some toys for the children and candy and Christmas treats.

At the time he left he had a very bad infected jaw and he had gone to the doctor at Homedale and had it lanced for a bad abscess. He was in a lot of pain and hadn't slept all night so I was worried to see him start out. He had planned on being home that night but he did not come or neither did he come Christmas. I didn't worry too much the first night as his brother Frank and family were working at the Hat-H-ranch. So, I thought he had stayed there although it wasn't like him to stay after saying he would be home.

The days passed and he did not come so I knew something bad had happened to him. He was also riding a bad horse and although he was a good rider, I thought he may have been thrown off his horse and been badly hurt along the trap line. I had no idea where this was and with two babies and me on foot I didn't know what to do. So, I just waited, worried and cried., while the coyotes howled every night and of course I had to watch the sheep and corral them each night.

On the tenth day of his absence a rider came up through the canyon. It was Andrew Cunningham who owned a stock ranch in Rockville. I asked him if he had seen my husband and he said he thought he had seen him going toward the post office the day before Christmas but couldn't be sure it was him.

I couldn't stand it any longer, so next morning I started out. I knew there was a ranch up through the canyon. The Rockyford Ranch, as Willard had told me about it, and I could see it when we moved down in the canyon from Mary's Water.

It was about four miles up through the canyon with no trail that that is the way I went, carrying one child over the big rocks then going back for the other one. the baby was seven months old and pretty heavy to carry so far and the girl got so tired I had to carry both of them part of the way. But I finally got to the ranch and told them my troubles.

They said yes they had heard, as Mr. Cunningham had come up and told them, and they also knew that my husband was in a hospital in Boise very ill. They had sent a man, Bob Gibbs, down to tell me but of course I had missed him by coming up the Canyon.

I was so happy that Willard was alive even though he had gangrene in his jaw. Willard had expected his brother to come down and tell me but he had got out of town and had car trouble and hadn't made it back.

the lady cook at the ranch, Mrs. Burns, fixed us a good lunch and it was so good to talk to a woman again and have a meal that someone else had cooked. Later that day they hooked up the team and drove us as far down as they could drive. Then we walked on down to camp. It was a moonlight night so we could see the trail.

I was so tired but happy when I went to bed that night and had the first peaceful sleep since Willard had been away. I had left the sheep in the corral that morning so didn't have to worry about them that night and I didn't even hear the coyotes howl.

In a few days Frank came down with a questionnaire to



be filled out and sent to the war department for World war I. This had to be filled out by both Willard and I and taken to a notary so it was necessary for me to make the trip to the hospital in Boise.

Frank rounded up the team and hooked them up for me after we had walked back up to where the wagon had been left at our first camp site. He had brought in some hay for the sheep and carried it down on the pack horses, so with a large tub of water I left them in the corral.

We put hay in the bottom of the wagon bed, then made a warm place with quilts for the babies so they could sleep and keep warm during the long trip in to Homedale where I could leave the team and go from there by stage. It was a distance of about twenty-five miles over a seldom used road by Antelope Springs and Frank told me to keep on the main traveled road. He had never been over it but had made inquiries about it.

I got started by daybreak and drove and drove. There were so many roads leading off the main road with no recent travel that I did not know if I was on the right road or not. The other roads just led off to summer sheep camps which had all moved out at that time of year, and I knew I could drive for miles through the desert and get nowhere and I had no idea about where we were. It was starting to get dark and I was getting worried. then I saw a man on horseback, but he turned and went in another direction. I called, but he kept on going his way. Then I stood up in the wagon seat and waved my scarf. He galloped over to us and I asked him if I was on the right road. He said I was and that about a mile ahead I would drop down off the higher country and could see Homedale. He seemed to be surprised to see a woman and two children out there in the middle of nowhere.

I soon came to Grave Yard Point and could see the lights in town, a very happy sight for me. When we got there I put the team in the livery stable, got a room at the hotel and we had our supper. Next morning we took the stage and went to Boise and to the Alphonsus hospital.

Willard was glad to see us and was able to be out of bed, but I was shocked to see how bad he looked. He had a large incision in his neck with a lot of gauze packed in it to keep it draining. The doctor told me I was lucky to have a husband, he was so bad when he got to the hospital. He also made out papers stating that Willard was not able to go in the service at that time.

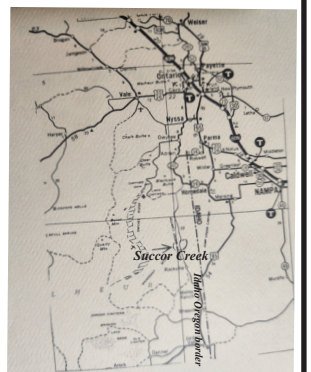


Ida Dutcher

August, 2024 began the serialization of Ida Dutcher's little book, "Our Homestead In the Canyon: Now Succor Creek State Park" in Malheur County, Oregon.

The book was first printed in 1970 when Mrs. Dutcher was 78 years old and shares her memories of homesteading during the early years of her marriage.

We hope you enjoy the read as much as we did. The book has many photos which we will share but because of their age they will not be crisp.



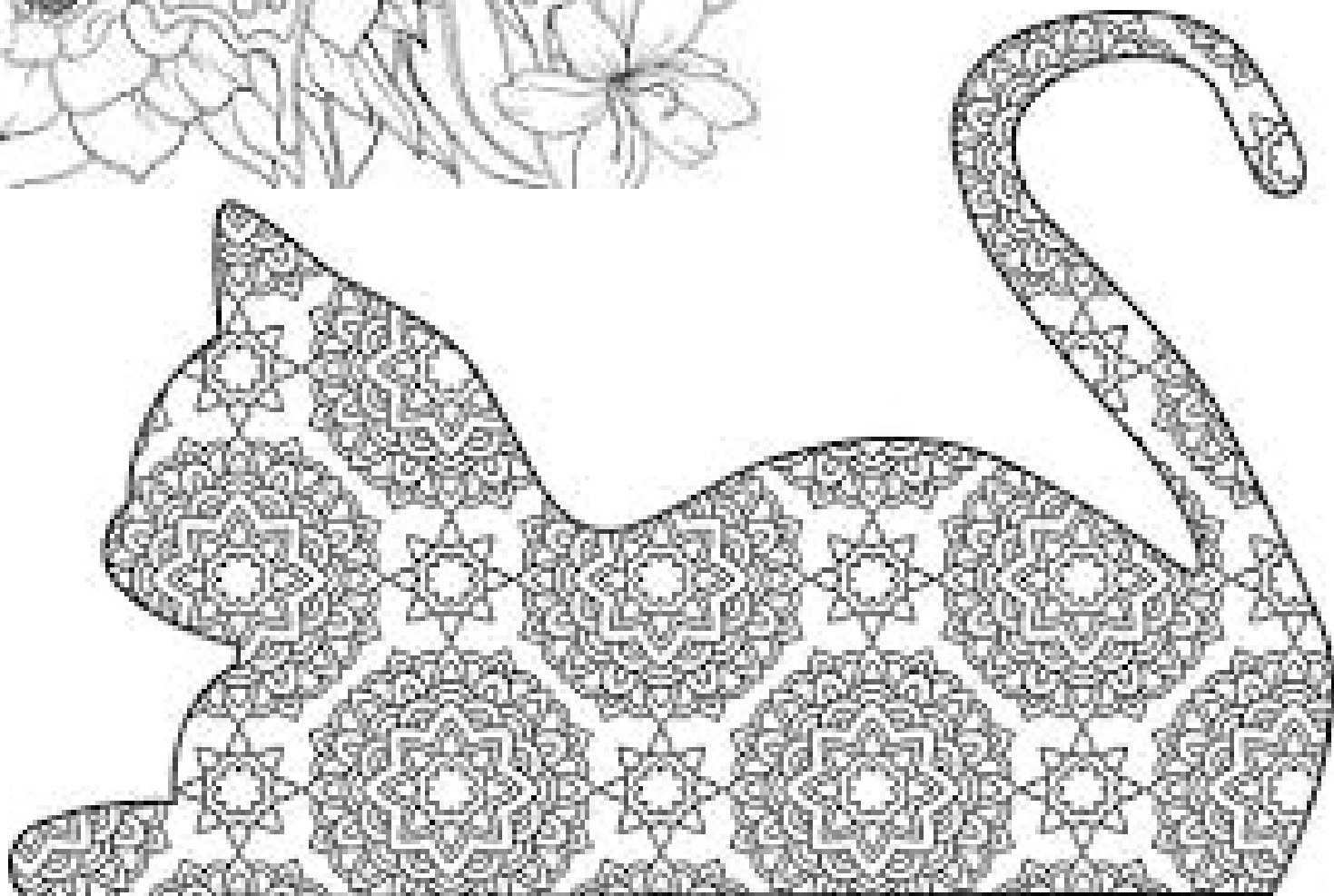
THERAPY FOR THE ADULT MIND



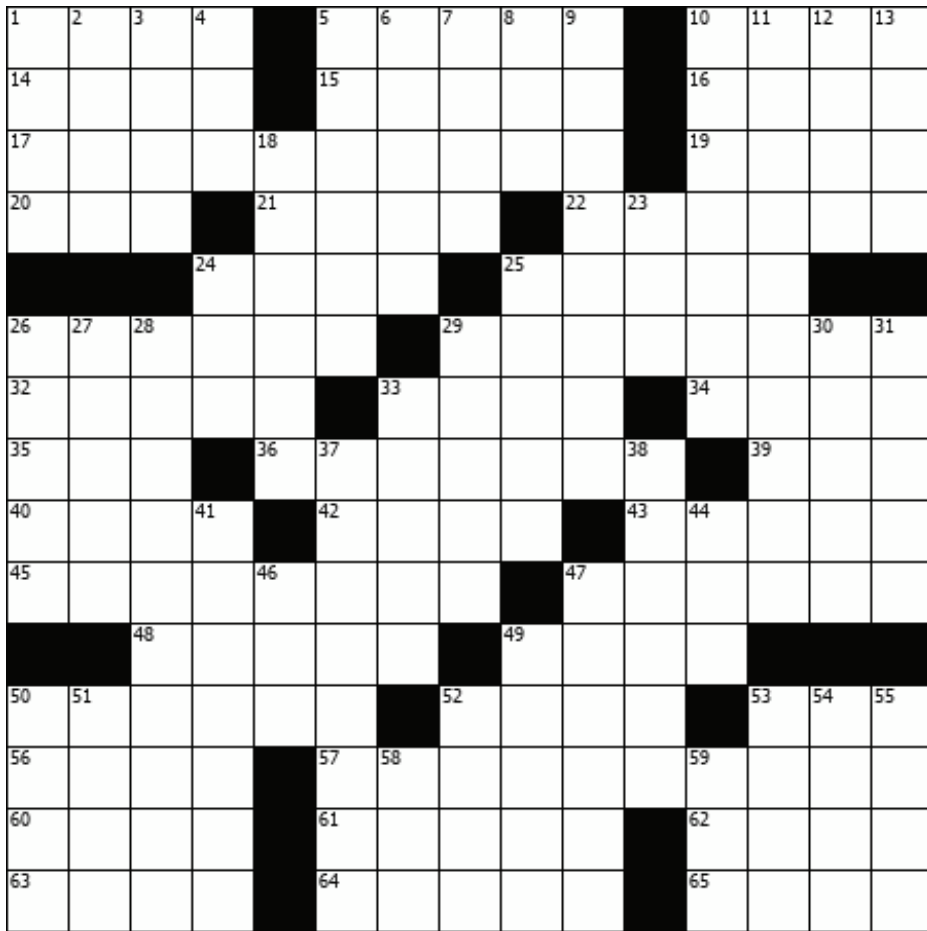
Here is one effort that came in. I guess that the print out from the web was too big, or maybe this was done on the newsprint. I do think this is a nice way to spend some quiet time in the evening.

I am going to offer a gift certificate to The Willows to the most colorful entry for next month's edition.

Also, let me know if there is a particular subject that you might wish to have in the paper for you and others to color, paint, ink or whatever medium you would like to use.



APRIL



Across

- 1. Island east of Java
- 5. Bay of Naples isle
- 10. Minor falling out
- 14. Dire sign
- 15. "Stormy Weather" songwriter
- 16. Strategem meant to fool
- 17. Frank Sinatra song
- 19. School fit for a prince
- 20. Virgo's neighbor
- 21. Rubber-stamp
- 22. Puts up, as a skyscraper
- 24. Start of many exclamations from Robin
- 25. Thin soup
- 26. Unperturbed
- 29. Lower jawbone
- 32. Bad kind of wave

- 33. Encl. for a reply
- 34. Home of the Fighting

Down

- 1. Cereal serving
- 2. Girlfriend, in Paris
- 3. Apollo's mother
- 4. Ltd., in the states
- 5. Sound from the henhouse
- 6. Orderly grouping
- 7. It's staged!
- 8. Gridiron official, briefly
- 9. Prisoner of war, e.g.
- 10. Term of endearment
- 11. Dark as can be
- 12. Words after "Thanks"
- 13. Counting intervals, sometimes

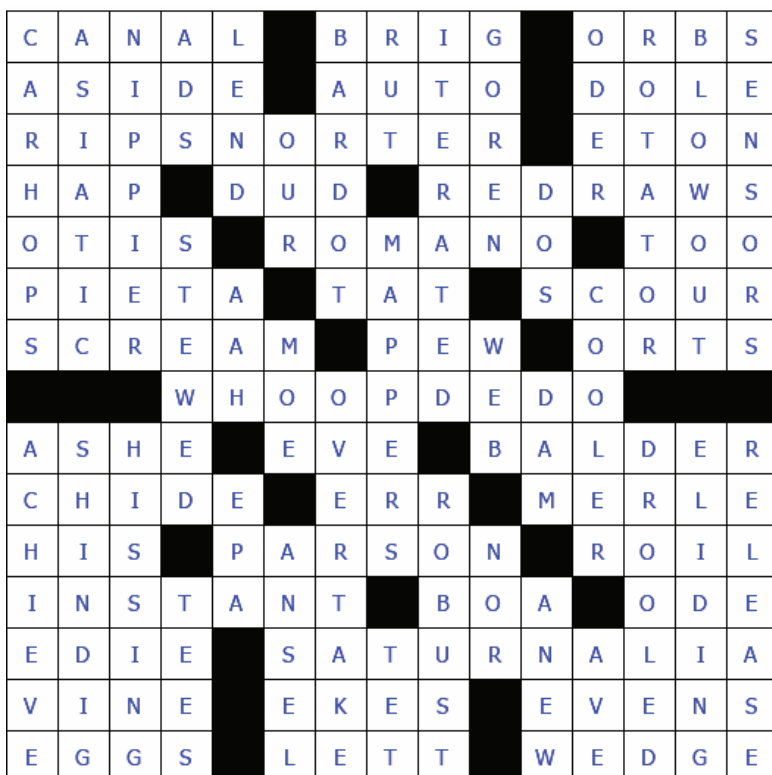


- 18. Laughed scornfully
- 23. It may be spared
- 24. It may be cured or glazed
- 25. Grounds
- 26. Famous opera house (with "La")
- 27. Rye fungus
- 28. What something may be as dull as
- 29. Dillon and Biondi
- 30. It rises in the Massif Central
- 31. Home of the Ewoks
- 33. Keeps, in print
- 37. Moments of clarity
- 38. Word used in razor ads
- 41. Getting better
- 44. Biblical transport
- 46. Crete's highest mountain
- 47. More luxurious
- 49. Italian bowling game
- 50. Use a knife or fork
- 51. Broken to the saddle
- 52. Spitter's sound
- 53. Analogous
- 54. Do-fa bridge
- 55. Word with fox or turkey
- 58. Perturb
- 59. Kind

Public Meetings

- CV Boosters - 2nd Mon at 7pm at Booster Building
- CV/NL Chamber of Commerce - quarterly (watch for posters)
- CV Fire Board - 2nd Tuesday at 6pm at The CV Fire Hall**
- NL Park & Rec - 2nd Tues at 9am at The Community Hall
- CV Water Board - 2nd Wed at 6 pm at District office
- NLEMS - 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm**
- FT Rock Grange - 2nd Wed at 6:30pm at Grange
- Ft Rock Historical Society - 2nd Tues-10am at the Museum
- NL Health District - 1st Mon at 5:30 pm at the Clinic**
- North lake School dist: - 2nd Monday at School Library

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