



# The Community Breeze

## 2026

*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](http://thecommunitybreeze.com)

[terryonitswayhome@gmail.com](mailto:terryonitswayhome@gmail.com)



*Photo by Gari Merrifield*

*Wild north winds on March 29th, 24 let all know that there was no going out like a lamb. This photo shows the massive clouds being flattened at sunset.*



**Names & Places  
or  
The Wild, Wild West**

Page 2

**A Small Dog,  
a Second Chance  
and the Power of Foster Care**



Page 3

**Bee-cuzz You Asked  
January  
and the  
Bees**



By Gary Brain



Page 6

**Activities**

Boxing	BINGO	Music
Ping Pong	Lunches	Pickleball

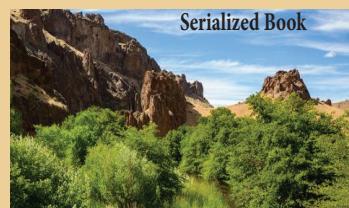
Page 8-9

**The Last Chapter  
Our Homestead  
In the  
Canyon**

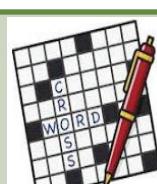
Ida Dutcher

Serialized Book

Page 12



**MONTHLY  
CROSSWORD**



Page 15

PRST STD  
ECRWSS  
US Postage  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Postal Customer

ECRWSS

## The Flyway Restaurant The Lodge at Summer Lake

### Valentines Dinner

Saturday, February 14

#### MENU

- 45 6oz Bacon wrapped Filet Mignon & Jumbo Shrimp
- 28 8oz Sirloin & Jumbo Shrimp
- 25 Baked Chicken in Tarragon Cream

All dinners include:

Complementary Shrimp Cocktail  
Veggie, Garden Salad, Herbed Red  
Potatoes, Sour Cream Roll

&  
A Special  
Valentine  
Dessert



Enjoy Our Oregon  
Wines or Beers

Serving beginning at 5pm

Reservations by Feb. 11th please 541 943 3993

Come in  
Enjoy  
Explore

# The Willows

Antiques & Vintage & Gifts

Laura Parks, owner

541-576-2199

87531 Christmas Valley Hwy  
Christmas Valley, OR 97641

Knitting, Kitchen, & More

10 am to 5 pm,  
every Tues thru Sat

**Marie Lee**

## Names and Places, or the Wild, Wild West

By Marie Lee

Back in time, folks weren't as "sensitive" as we are nowadays. We've been told that our parents and grandparents attached names to various locations

that are no longer acceptable. Here in Oregon our forefathers on the eastern side of the state were especially careless—or so we've been told.

Enter the Oregon State Legislature. Legislation was passed during the 2025 session that required the Oregon Geographic Names Board, part of Oregon Historical Society, to examine all geographical names within the state and determine that they are not offensive. Greaser Canyon, in far southeastern Lake County, was brought to Lake County Museum's attention last summer. Why it was named such, I don't know—the area is rampant with greasewood so that could have been the source, but who is to know for sure? It's probably going to become Greasewood Canyon on official maps, but it will always be Greaser Canyon to those who know and love the desert.

Another location was recently brought to my attention: A place up the Chewaucan River, out of Paisley, called "Coon Hollow." I had to chuckle as I informed the board that a man whose name was P.C. Coon once had a homestead on the Chewaucan. It will be noted on future maps as "P.C. Coon Hollow." The board, however, had an idea that it ought to be renamed "Racoon Hollow." In a past edition I might have written about P. C. Coon, but I don't remember.

Brenda Morgan, Paisley historian, first told me about Powell Clayton Coon. He was a true wild west character. P.C. was colorful, unkept to the point of revulsion, and also a talented artist. P.C. filed a claim up the canyon west of Paisley on the bank of the Chewaucan River. He proved up and took another homestead next to the first. His homesteads were poor as they were directly on the river, strewn with rocks and juniper trees. At the time there was heavy speculation about a gold strike. He sold his homesteads in 1922, but that area has always been known as "Coon Hollow."

P.C.'s homestead was bordered by Jack Barham's homestead. "Juniper Jack," as he was known, hired a sheepherder, Alex Savoy, who had a reputation as an ill-tempered Frenchman (not that all French people are ill-tempered). P. C. Coon sold fire-wood and had a load on his wagon the morning of March 26, 1917. As he went to hitch up his wagon P.C. heard the angry shouts of Alex Savoy. His shouts were well-peppered with inappropriate language, in other words—cussing.

As he went about hitching the horses, P.C. noticed the wheels were frozen stuck to the ground. As soon as the team broke free Savoy came into view waving a club. Savoy ran in front of the team and hotly inquired of P.C. if he had seen his (Savoy's) horse. P. C. answered, "Yes. I saw it on the hillside below my house." Savoy interjected, "You damn son-of-a-bitch why did you run that horse off? God Damn you, I have been laying for you. Now I got you, you son-of-a-bitch, I am agoin' to climb

**The Chewaucan River**

on that wagon and beat you to death you son-of-a-bitch." Savoy continued to wave his club and swear while he proceeded to climb onto P.C.'s forward moving wagon. P.C. slid back over the wood pulling out a borrowed pistol. His finger slipped off the trigger and the first shot went over Savoy's head. Savoy raised his club toward P.C. and Coon got off another shot, this time hitting Savoy in the right arm. Savoy lurched. He grabbed at the wagon trying to hang

on and get closer to P.C. Meanwhile the team continued to pull the wagon. P. C. got off another shot as he escaped from Savoy who lost his grip. He got off five more shots. Savoy's arm had to be amputated. P.C. Coon eventually had to make a payment to Savoy. The case was dismissed as a "not true bill." Ahh, the wild, wild west!

### ***The Community Breeze***

**Deadline: The 20th**

We are working hard to have the Breeze to readers as close to the first of the month as printing schedules allow. There are always variables..

At times printing schedules, holidays and weather may cause a late mailing. That is why it is important to have advertising information, especially new advertising or changes in as early as possible

**THANK YOU**

### **Letters to the Editor**

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***

Is published monthly and mailed to 1000+ 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](http://thecommunitybreeze.com)

Editor: Terry Crawford 541-480-0753 - [terryonitswayhome@agmail.com](mailto:terryonitswayhome@agmail.com)

**Deadline: The 20th the month**

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.

# A Small Dog, a Second Chance, and the Power of Foster Care

By Kathy Allen

In September of 2024, my daughter and I were driving through Christmas Valley when something caught my eye. Off to the left, near a hay barn, I noticed a small black-and-white shape far out in the distance—just a little blob that didn't quite belong there.

At the time, we had heard about a small dog that had been missing for five days and nights, lost out in the sagebrush. The weather had turned cold, and the thought of a little dog alone out there didn't sit right with us. So we stopped. What we found was a tiny, exhausted Chihuahua—about 15 pounds—trying to survive. He was eating something that didn't look fit for any animal, and when we approached, he tried to run, though it was clear he didn't have much left in him. He was tired. Bone tired.

We circled around and approached the hay barn again. The little dog wedged himself between hay bales, watching us carefully. We happened to have a can of cat food, so I set it down and waited. Slowly, he emerged, hunger winning over fear. As he ate, I took a chance. I reached out and grabbed him, hoping I wouldn't get bitten. He didn't bite me. He just gave up.

I brought him home, and for the next two days, he did little more than sleep. His body was simply worn out. After about a week, he began to recover, and soon after that, his owner came forward—a single woman who loved him but was struggling. I returned him to her, but told her one thing before I left: if she ever couldn't care for him, to please call me.

About a month later, she did. That time, when we brought him home, it was for good. His name was Jax, and he wasn't feeling well at all. His mouth was badly infected, and he desperately needed dental care. Once that was taken care of, something amazing happened—Jax blossomed. He felt better. He became stronger. He became himself.

I had Jax for a year and a half. And I won't sugarcoat it—he was a grumpy little Chihuahua who didn't like anyone except me. He loved me fiercely, and I loved him right back. He especially disliked my daughter Becky, and he made sure she knew it. But that was Jax. He had opinions.

As time went on, his health began to decline. And just yesterday, I had to make the hardest decision we ever make for the animals we love. We helped Jax cross the Rainbow Bridge. It was peaceful. Gentle. Full of love. And even in the heartbreak, I know I did the right thing.

Jax's story is not just about one dog. It's about what can happen when someone stops, looks twice, and opens their home. This is why foster care matters.

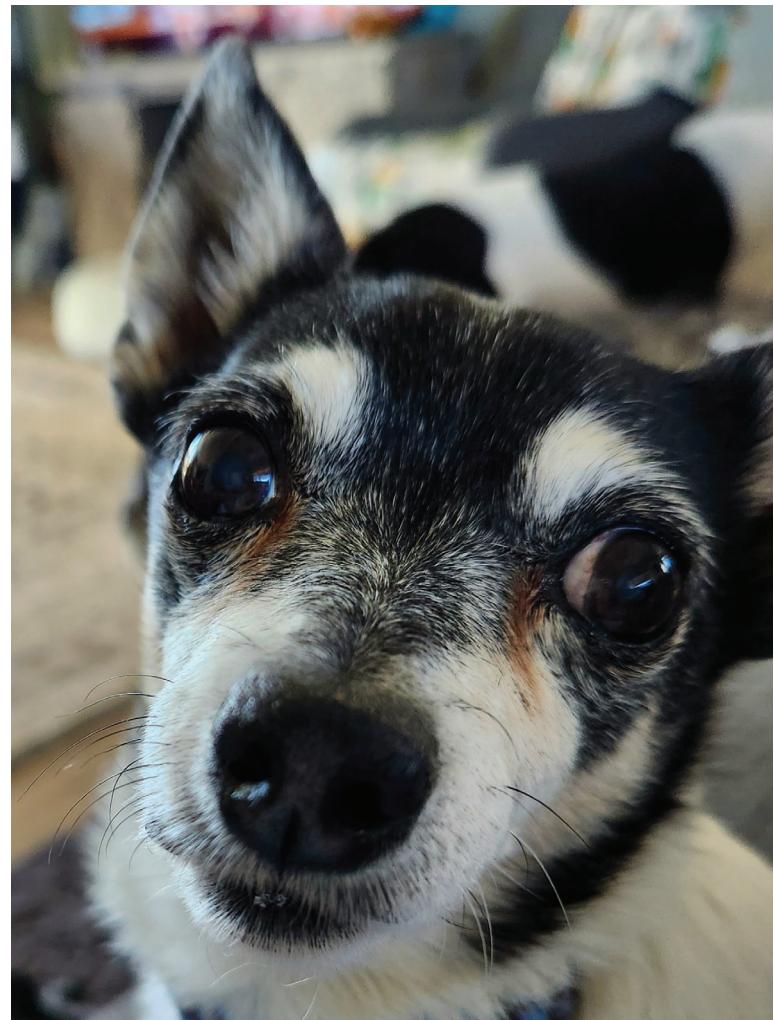
The Humane Society of North Lake County relies on foster families to save animals like Jax. Foster homes allow dogs who are sick, scared, recovering, elderly, or simply overwhelmed to heal in a safe, warm environment. Fostering gives them a chance they might not otherwise have. And here's the most important part: the Humane Society provides everything. All food. All medical care. All supplies. The only thing needed from the foster family is a safe place and love.

That's it. You don't need to be perfect. You don't need a big house. You just need a willingness to help. Jax came into my life when he had nothing left. Because of foster care, he spent his final year and a half warm, cared for, and deeply loved. That is a gift I will always be grateful for.



If you've ever thought about fostering—this is your sign. Our community can save more lives if we step up together.

Sometimes, all it takes is stopping the car, opening your heart and saying yes. For dogs like Jax, that yes means everything



## Lakeview Animal Hospital Rabies Clinic

**February 21, 2026 9 am - 12 pm**  
**Lakeview Animal Hospital**

18644 Roberta Rd, Lakeview, OR 97630

**February 26, 2026, 10 AM - 12 PM**  
**Christmas Valley Community Hall**

87345 Holly St, Christmas Valley, OR 97641

**February 26, 2026, 1:30 - 2:30 PM**  
**Paisley Community Center**

705 Chewaucan St, Paisley, OR 97636

### Feline Vaccines

Rabies: \$15  
DRC/FELV: \$30

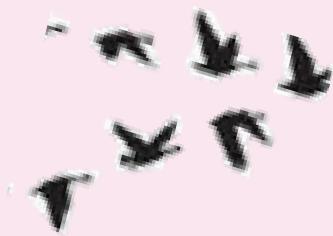
### Canine Vaccines

Rabies: \$15  
DHLPPC: \$22

### **County Dog License**

Only \$5 at Clinic!





# The Flyway Restaurant

541-943-3993

*The Lodge at Summer Lake*

**Featuring  
Local Beef  
"1875 RANCH"  
Hand-Pressed Burgers**

**House-made  
Soups  
Daily Specials**

**Homemade  
Fresh Pies &  
Custom Desserts**

*We have beverages  
to go including  
Beer and Wine*



*Visit our beautiful Horsefeathers Gift Shop. Estate & Collectible Goods & Books*

**Premium  
Hand-Cut  
Steaks**  
**Seafood**

**BBQ**

*We've a nice selection  
of Oregon Beers and Wines*

**HOURS**

**Mon-Thurs: 5-7 pm**  
**Fri & Sat: 8am to 2 pm**  
**and 5pm to 7pm**  
**Sundays: 8 am to Close**

**Specialties of the House!**  
**Hand-cut Steaks! Grilled Salmon & Fabulous Prawn Dinners**  
**Please Call for Reservations and to Verify Hours**  
**Reservations required for groups of six or more**

Found this wonderful salad that can be used on its own or for filling Pita bread pockets, or in a wrap. And it uses Honey in the dressing for a gently sweet finish.

## Wonderful Versatile Salad

### Ingredients:

1 C Uncooked Couscous  
1/2 C Nuts, toasted and chopped  
1/2 C Raisins  
3 C Cooked, Shredded Pork Roast or Shredded  
Chicken Breast  
2 C Shredded Romaine Lettuce

Dressing: combine and set aside

1/4 C Honey  
1/4 C EVOO  
1/4 C Lemon Juice  
2 TBSP Chopped Fresh Parsley  
1 tsp Curry Powder  
1 tsp Grated Lemon Peel  
Salt & Pepper to taste

### Optional:

4 Pita Bread Pockets cut in half  
8 medium Wraps



### Putting it all Together:

Cook Couscous according to package directions.  
In bowl combine Couscous, Almonds, Raisins, Pork or  
Chicken and shredded Lettuce.  
Toss dressing with Couscous Salad. Serve on a bed of  
Lettuce, in Wraps, or Pita Pockets  
Use your favorite slow cooker recipe to cook pork or  
chicken to shred.

**Enjoy!**

Remember, The  
Breeze always  
welcomes your  
recipes, so  
please send them  
along with a  
little information  
as to why it  
is one of your  
favorites!



**BREAKFAST**  
6AM-11AM

**LUNCH**  
&  
**DINNER**  
12AM-7PM

**Weekly specials**  
BURGERS, MELTS, AND SOUP



**SCRATCH MADE BISCUITS AND GRAVEY**  
SLOW SMOKED CHICKEN/BRISKET/RIBS/PULLED PORK

**BUBBA'S**  
**SOUTHERN BBQ**  
86861 CHRISTMAS VALLEY HWY  
ACROSS FROM DOLLAR GENERAL

# Valentine's Day Flower Sale

At the Booster building behind the C.V. Post Office

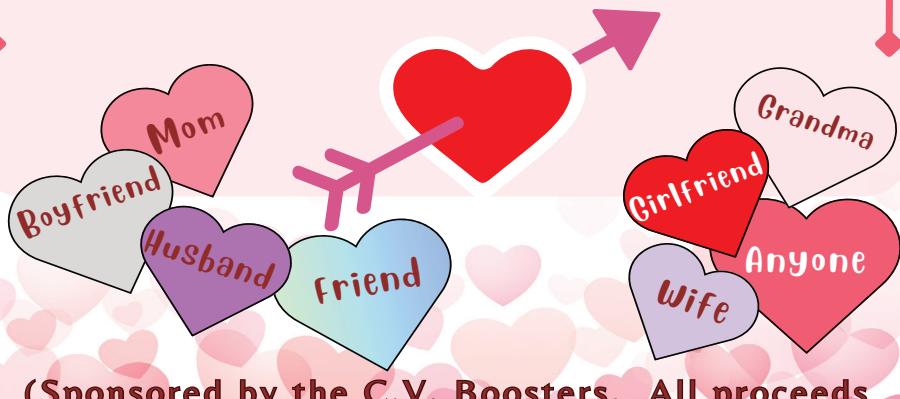
**February 12th/13th 11am-6pm**

**February 14th 11am-3pm**

**FLOWERS - \$5 & UP**

**CANDY - CARDS**

**STUFFED ANIMALS**



(Sponsored by the C.V. Boosters. All proceeds benefit kids in the N. Lake County area.)

**Dog Grooming by Vicki**  
503-939-2467  
Over 40 years experience.

Located  
(2 miles South  
of Chevron)

**"Your pet's comfort is my  
main concern."**

## Lake County Public Transportation

### LAKE COUNTY'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

*Provider:*  
Inner Court Family Center

Paisley: 541-407-0317  
TTY: 711  
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm  
Monday - Friday

VETERANS  
SENIORS AND THOSE  
WITH DISABILITIES

THOSE WITHOUT  
ACCESS TO  
TRANSPORTATION

AS WELL AS  
LOW INCOME  
INDIVIDUALS

THE GENERAL  
PUBLIC

**Call  
541 407 0317**

#### Scheduling a Ride:

All rides need to be scheduled  
through dispatch at 541 407 0317

We ask for 3 days lead time. We  
know this is not always possible. We  
will still work to set up a ride for  
you.

Dispatch will need to know your  
name, physical address, day of ride,  
appointment time and destination  
address. Please include any additional  
stops.

#### Responsibilities

Be on time

No drinking alcohol (before or  
during the ride)

No smoking in any vehicles  
Cleanliness of both your body and  
the vehicle

Be courteous

Let us know if there is a caregiver/  
support person traveling with you

Be safe!

Happy New year! January has been a cold long month!

After the colony loss suffered in December, the remaining hives still seem to be alive. I knocked on the side of the box and heard some buzzing!

To determine what happened, I did some research and talked to some of my bee keeper friends and came to the conclusion that after the November cold spell, December warmed

up for two weeks into the mid sixties and the girls broke their winter cluster. I noticed it when I saw the girls out trying to forage during the December warm up. This is the first time in the 22 years I have been keeping bees that everything lined up to make a "perfect storm," leading to the girls breaking cluster in the winter!

Severe swings in temperature can prevent the bees that broke the cluster from returning to the cluster in time to protect one another from freezing temperatures.

Honey bees may break their cluster on warmer winter days but will die if they do not re-cluster when the temperatures drop. We had incredibly drastic temperature changes that impacted our bee hives and this just isn't something we can control.

I have our honey bee hives placed along a tree/shrub line that acts as a wind break to help reduce some impacts of the cold weather on the hives but alas when the temperature dropped after the two week warm up the girls could not re-cluster and died. We are guessing that our strongest hive died because the cluster of bees was too small to keep warm through the most recent cold snap at the end of December. We have had a long, cold winter this year and the cold temperatures started earlier than usual this fall.

So much for the post mortem. Onto January. What to do? One of the most important tasks in January is ensuring your bees have enough food. By now, your hive should have built



## Bee-Cuzz You



### JANUARY and the Bees

By Gary A. Brain Summer Lake



In many regions, January is the coldest month, and temperatures can cause the bees to cluster more tightly, leaving them with limited access to the honey stored in the outer frames.

How to determine if there is enough honey supply to sustain the girls? Check the weight of the hive. If it feels unusually light, there may be a shortage of honey. If you suspect that your bees are running low on food, you may need to feed them. Be cautious though—during winter, you want to avoid opening the hive too much to prevent temperature fluctuations. Consider placing fondant onto the upper box under the inner cover if needed, but remember, feeding should only be done if absolutely necessary.

Adequate ventilation is essential during winter to keep moisture levels low and allow the colony to breathe. If moisture builds up inside the hive, it can create perfect conditions for diseases or mold, which can be disastrous for the colony. However, you also want to avoid chilling the bees by exposing them to cold drafts.

Check the top entrance or ventilation holes to make sure they are unobstructed. I add a small shim or, notch to the roof to allow for proper airflow, ensuring that moisture has a way to escape without allowing cold drafts to enter. Keep an eye on the weather. It has been an odd year for weather patterns so make

sure your hives are lashed down and if it snows insure that the entrances are not blocked.

Finally start thinking about upcoming tasks like hive splits, new equipment needs, and any treatments or supplements your bees might need once the weather warms up. By planning now, you can ensure a smoother transition when the busy months of beekeeping arrive.

Stay warm, stay safe, Bee kind!

up a solid honey reserve for the winter, but it's always a good idea to check as bees consume honey during colder months to fuel their metabolism and keep the hive warm.

## Christmas Valley Lodge



### Valentine's Dinner

SATURDAY  
14<sup>TH</sup> FEB

PRIME RIB &  
DUNGEONESS  
CRAB  
ONLY \$120 PER  
COUPLE

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

LIMITED SEATING

541 576 4576

## Summer Lake Hot Springs

Paisley, Oregon

A Healing Retreat

Come Experience the Energy of Nature!

Enjoy an Exhilarating  
Spring Soak  
in our  
Healing Waters!

We are  
No Longer  
Open for  
Day Use

RESERVATIONS  
ONLY

summerlakehotsprings.com  
541-943-3931

Natural Hot Artesian Mineral Springs heated from the Earth.

## Christmas Valley Lodge

Restaurant & Lounge

Open Every Day!

541 576 4576

Full  
Breakfast  
Lunch  
&  
Dinner  
Menus

Restaurant  
Hours:  
6am ~ 8pm



A Great  
Bar  
&  
A Great  
Bar  
Menu  
Outside  
Seating Too!

**KAREOKE**

Every  
First & Third  
Saturday

Family  
Friendly! POOL

DART LEAGUES

87285 Christmas Valley Highway

**BINGO & BOOZE**  
Every  
Second & Fourth  
Saturday

## Christmas Valley Boxing

Owned by long time boxing enthusiast, trainer and coach Rod Smith, *Christmas Valley Boxing* is new to our area but not to Oregon. For more than 20-years Rod owned the Bend Boxing Club. Boxing truly is his passion, and he is a great coach and trainer.

And, before you shut down, boxing is a great physical activity for everyone - including people with mobility issues. It isn't about getting in a ring and sparing or competing, albeit, it can be. Rather boxing can be seen as a path to improved health.

### BENEFITS OF BOXING FOR FITNESS:

- Boosts Cardiovascular Health
- Aids in Weight Management
- Improves Balance and Coordination
- Develops Stamina and Endurance
- Reduces Stress and Releases Tension
- Enhances Focus and Concentration
- Boosts Self-Confidence and Discipline



Jake Chess (above) says of the training program, "Rod is an amazing coach and trainer and right now, as the program is getting started, participants are getting a lot of one-on-one time.

### CLASS SCHEDULE:

Times	Students	Ages
8:00 - 10:00 am	2-8	Open
10:00 - 11:20 am	2-8	Open
11:30 - 1:00 pm	2-8	Open
1:00 - 2:30 pm	2-8	Open
2:30 - 4:00 pm	8-10	8-16 years
4:00 - 5:30 pm	8-10	8-16 years
5:30 - 7:00pm	8-10	Open

\* also 1:1, evening & weekend classes available  
\$50 a month or \$5 daily

Christmas Valley Boxing is located at 87632 Christmas Valley Highway. You can reach Rod at the gym: 541-350-6515 or at the welding shop 541-385-8916

## Steel Smith Fab

Ornamental Iron Work

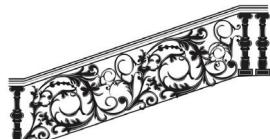
541-385-8916

Stairways, Railings, Gates

87632 Christmas  
Valley Highway

Truck Racks & Trailers

Horse Stalls & Fences



Brackets & Fireplace Fronts  
Certified Welding & Repairs  
Other Products & Services (ask us)

ROD SMITH: Owner



Bingo is back! It's time for the bi-monthly bingo at the Christmas Valley Community Hall. It's a great way to stave off the winter doldrums.

All games will fall on a Thursday. The tentative schedule for February is the 12th and the 26th. Watch for posters to confirm.

## CV JAMMERS

Bring your instrument, singing voice, or just come to listen. Its free, so come join the fun!

We Meet up 1st and 3rd Sat,  
every month  
Noon-3pm. At CV  
Community Hall



Contact info, 541.536.3476  
FB page, CV JAMMERS

## SOUP KITCHEN



The Soup Kitchen at the Community Hall, hosted by Barbara Ferrando resumes operation beginning October 7th. All are welcome, donations are appreciated. Meals are served from 11:30 until 1pm every Tuesday.

## SENIOR LUNCHEES

The Silver Lake Cafe senior lunch on Mondays is on a break. The Watering Hole in Fort Rock is hosting senior lunches every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Both establishments begin serving at noon. Call special transportation if you need a ride.





**PICKLEBALL at the  
COMMUNITY HALL &  
AT NORTH LAKE SCHOOL**



THE FULL-SIZED COURT HAS BEEN PAINTED IN THE  
COMMUNITY HALL AND  
THE NEW NET IS ASSEMBLED & UP

**NEW TIME!**  
CURRENTLY WE ARE PLAYING AT THE COMMUNITY  
HALL ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 11AM  
&  
AT NORTH LAKE SCHOOL IN THE SMALL GYM  
ON SUNDAYS AT 1PM

BENEFITS OF PLAYING:  
GETTING SOME EXERCISE - MEETING NEW PEOPLE  
HAVING A GOOD TIME

**PING PONG**

THERE IS NOW A FULL SIZED, VERY  
NICE PING PONG TABLE  
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL

&  
PARK AND REC HAS PURCHASED  
NEW PADDLES AND BALLS  
FOLKS WHO WANT TO PLAY



WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED WITH THIS  
SO PLEASE LET P&R KNOW IF YOU ARE  
INTERESTED IN PLAYING

SPONSORED BY  
CHRISTMAS VALLEY/NORTH LAKE CHAMBER  
WITH THE SUPPORT OF CHRISTMAS VALLEY  
PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT  
AND NORTH LAKE SCHOOL

# VISION

IT'S OUR FOCUS

Photo © 2007 Digital Vision

Optometric Physician Timothy Arbow, O.D.  
Will See You at NL Clinic by Appointment

**541-554-9888**

You Don't Have to Travel Out of Town  
To Get Your Eyes Examined!

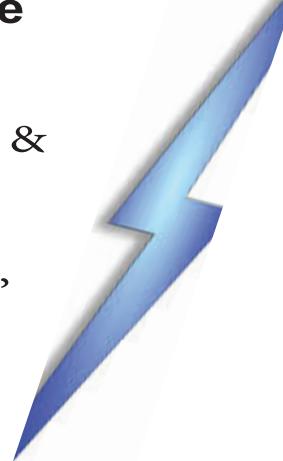
## Call the Local Guys FIRST!

### Handde Pump & Electric, Inc.



### Zimmatic Sales and Service

- Huge selection of Plumbing & Electrical Supplies
- Sinks, faucets, water heaters, pressure tanks
- Galvanized, ABS, CPVC fittings and tools



Monday-Friday  
8 am - 5 pm  
Phone: 541-576-2206  
Fax: 541-576-2702  
CCB #45220

- Lumber including plywood
- Fencing Supplies
- Landscaping pavers, & more



Located on the Highway in the Heart of Christmas Valley



## ANN'S STYLING SALON

**541-410-6658**

**Cuts, Styling, Color,  
Weaves, Perms & More**

**MANICURES & NAILS  
PEDICURES TOO!**

**NEW HOURS**

**Brow & Facial Waxing**

**60342 Fossil Lake Road**

**Open: WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**

"I'm not a tool user." I say that all the time, and it's true. Power tools are a no-go for me. I'm okay with a hammer & nails, post hole diggers, a manner of garden and barn tools but when it comes to building or anything mechanical I am guaranteed to fail. the weird thing is I can see how something will go together or how a mechanism works and sometimes see a solution, I just can't implement it. To quote my long-deceased husband, Pat, "A screwdriver in her hands is a lethal weapon."

So having a slow, steady cave-in in the kitchen was an easy fix - put a board over it, add a rug or two and become proficient at cooking on a less than level stove top. Oh, and don't use the dishwasher - it the origin of the problem.

Over the holidays my son Stephen said, get it fixed as I had mentioned I had found someone that would do the work and not take me to the cleaners. So began the project. And the damage was more extensive than I had realized.

So 2x4s and 2x6s board and a full sheet of plywood were purchased along with new insulation, and the work began. Two days and ten hours later the floor was in and

ready to be sanded and painted. I had already painted where the dishwasher and new glass-top range would be so they could be installed.

Sanding all the filled in edges and painting them a few times took a couple of weeks as I drove quite a bit and also worked at a horse show in Eugene. It was only in the last few days that I was able to get a heavy coat



of primer down. The floor will get another coat of paint, this time a semi-gloss exterior and eventually some type of floor covering will be installed, but for now the paint is just fine.

Cooking on a glass-top is definitely a learning experience. Especially for someone that really isn't into cooking. So far I haven't burned anything,

It was such a pleasure to work with someone who absolutely knew what he was doing, provided an estimate that was within \$20 of the total cost, arrived at the time agreed upon and gave me my kitchen back. Oh, and a huge thank you to son Stephen who paid for the work.

So over the weekend of the 24th I was in Eugene working the gate at a show at the Oregon Horse Center. I really didn't expect to see a huge turn out, but I was wrong. The show filled.

As always I packed just about every layer of winter clothes so as to be set for any conditions. It's a good thing I did as while our area continued to enjoy unseasonably mild temperatures the Eugene area had the coldest days of the winter - read 21 degrees and high humidity. Burrrr.

I felt bad for the riders, as they were in 'show attire' which does not translate to warm cloths. Most of them had heated vests and jackets but those came off while they were riding their trials. I took and handed back jackets all day, both days as well as checking horses and taking care of the gate. It was a long, long

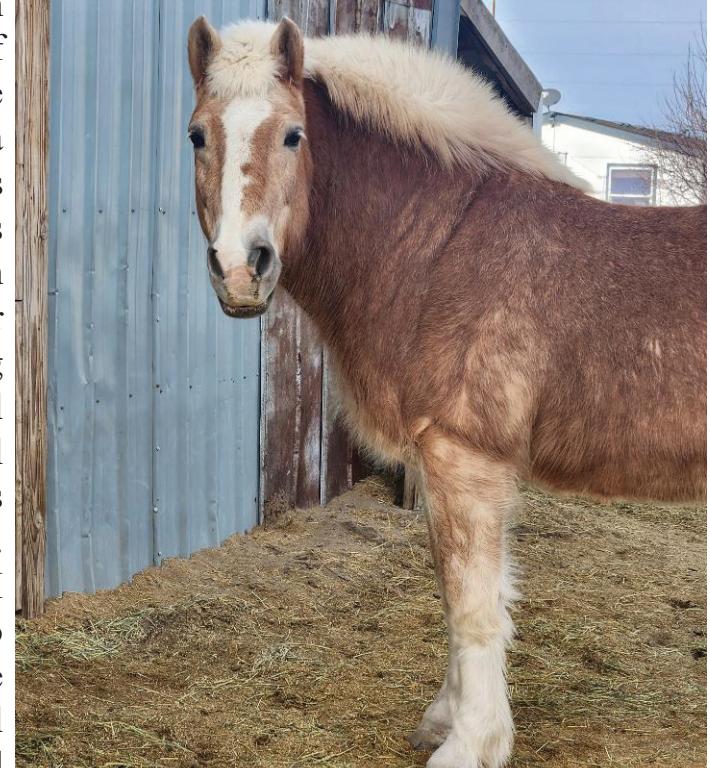
# Comings and Goings

eleven hours on Saturday and while Sunday was a shorter day it sure felt long, mostly because of the cold.

A highlight of the show for me as Erica Peet, one of my favorite judges was out from Chicago to Judge. It was great to get a bit of visiting in during breaks. And I was also happy to see some new faces and a lot of very nice rides.

My sweet Haflinger, Beach Boy is doubling as a Woolly Mammoth this winter as I opted not to clip him for winter riding. Let me tell you, this guy can grow a coat. He has so many guard hairs that he is almost water-proof. Right now he looks ridiculous so it's a good thing horses are not obsessed with their appearance, if they were he would be seeking some beauty shop time.

Last September for the regional championship show he got a major mane roach which much to my dislike included his forelock. So now he is in the process of growing it all out. Now most horses and ponies have manes that are manageable and of average thickness. Beach Boy's stable mates, who also had manes roached last fall, have grown out nice, even manes that have folded over. Not so for my guy, as the picture below illustrates. Not only does he grow his coat and mane out faster he also has an abundance of both. His mane grows from a strip that is four inches wide so even when his hair stops standing on end it still manages to fall on both sides of his neck. For showing I would half to do a double braid, a several hour task and there is no way



I would ever get that done. His previous owner paid someone to do it for her. So in a few months he will have a new hair style and by then I hope that his forelock will be laying down and manageable.

The Park and Rec board has implemented some new policies related to the Community Hall. They are happy to continue sponsoring many activities at no cost but are now requiring a \$50 deposit to cover damage, cleaning, etc. Additionally they request that a representative of the group attend a board meeting and formally request the district's support. Groups/ and or activities currently using the hall with district support are Pickle Ball, Game Night, CV Jammers, NA, Bingo and the Soup Kitchen.

As part of the districts support it is agreed that when a paying entity seeks the hall during a time period when district supported activities are normally scheduled, the entity wishing to rent the hall will be given the date. It is a fair trade-off. It is hoped that there will soon be a monthly calendar posted on Facebook and printed in both the Whispers and the Breeze.

Well I hope you are all enjoying the mild weather, I know I am. It sure is a lot easier to do chores without snow or ice or freezing winds.

# OregonCountry



**SHARA SHUMWAY**

Principal Real Estate Broker



Visit us @: [www.oregoncountryrealty.com](http://www.oregoncountryrealty.com)

Office: 541-576-2772

P.O. Box 887 Christmas Valley, OR 97641

Fax: 541-576-2302

E-mail: [oregoncountry2002@yahoo.com](mailto:oregoncountry2002@yahoo.com)

Cell: 541-480-6461

**Our Ads are All  
Full Color**



Give us a call at 541-480-0753 Or, email us at [terryonitsway@aol.com](mailto:terryonitsway@aol.com) or [terryonitswayhome@gmail.com](mailto:terryonitswayhome@gmail.com)

## Christmas Valley Concrete, Inc.

Dale Shumway

**541 576 2218 or 541 420 2917**

**Ready-Mixed Concrete ~ Septic  
Systems & Repairs, Rock &  
Fill Material ~ Land Clearing ~  
Ditches ~ Driveways**

*Over 20 years serving the Christmas Valley,  
Fort Rock, Paisley, Silver Lake &  
Summer Lake areas*

Licensed/Bonded/Insured CCB #99796 DEQ #38347

**Santa's**

**General Store**

**541-576-2999**

**Come in and Check Out  
our expanded Fishing and  
Hunting Sections**



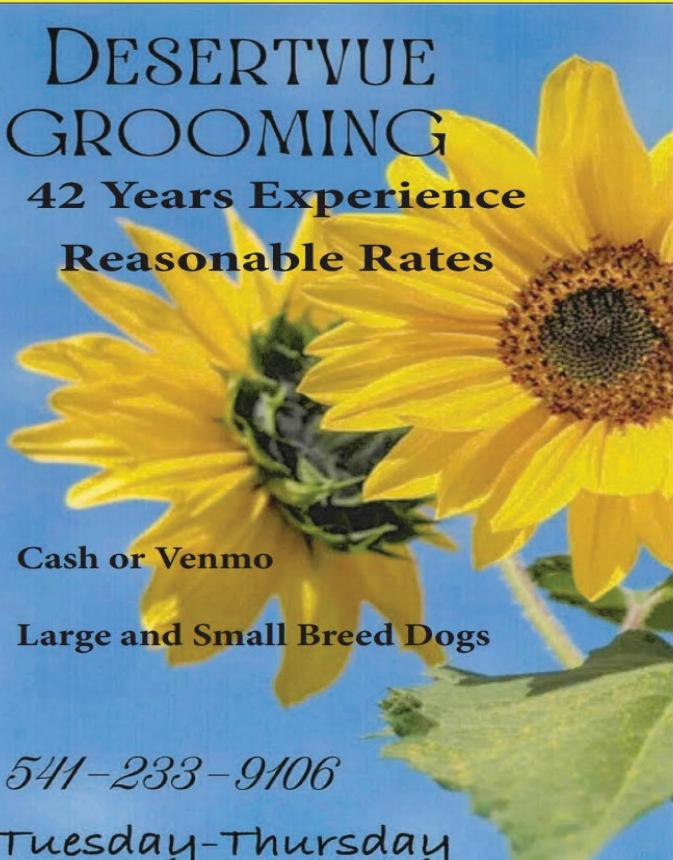
87038 Christmas Valley Hwy.  
[info@santasupplyco.com](mailto:info@santasupplyco.com)

Currently, Paul's  
Schedule is Full!

**P - M**

**Farrier and Barefoot trimming  
Services**  
Paul Bjarnson  
Call or Text 541-214-5361

**DESERTVUE  
GROOMING**  
**42 Years Experience**  
**Reasonable Rates**



**Cash or Venmo**  
**Large and Small Breed Dogs**  
**541-233-9106**  
**Tuesday-Thursday**

# Our Homestead In the Canyon

## Now Succor Creek State Park in Malheur County Oregon

Authored by Ida Dutcher

### OUR FREE HOTEL

Mother Dutcher used to say we ran a free hotel, and did not approve of me doing so much cooking and giving so many meals away. But to charge for a meal was out of the question as far and Willard or I were concerned. As I look back, I agree with mother about the free hotel. But we always enjoyed company and liked to entertain our friends as well as strangers.

Some of the boys who rode at Board corral would come in hungry for pastries and I have gotten up at two o'clock and started baking. One of the boys, especially liked my banana cake, so I would make them for him. There were no bananas in them though but I never had to throw any away.

There was a sheep camp at Meadow Lark Spring one fall and I would have Willard take a gingerbread cake up to the herders. One time Willard came home and told me the herder asked if I was a colored girl. I was quite shocked at this and Willard said he had asked the man down for Thanksgiving dinner. When he came, he said, "I asked bill if you had come from the south as you baked such delicious gingerbread." Willard always enjoyed getting a joke on me

### HAYING ON THE N-N RANCH

Our last haying job was on the N-N ranch for Cy Dowell. This ranch was on upper Cow Creek and a few miles from the Cow Creek Crater.

One Sunday, I fixed a picnic lunch and most of the



Part of the N-N hay crew at the Cow Creek Crater.

crew went with us to the blow-out of the crater. It was very interesting and my first trip there. It was a rough ride in our truck but well worth it to see where the hot lava had run out of the blow-out and down the valley for many miles.

The job there would be finished in two or three days after the 4th of July. Since it was so far out, Mr. Dowell wanted to keep the boys there until after the 4th, thinking if they left they wouldn't come back all that distance for that short job. He wasn't

a drinking man, but thought if he got some whiskey for the crew, they could do a little celebrating there instead of leaving the ranch. One evening after

supper, Mr. Dowell asked Willard and I to drive him into Jordan Valley after the refreshments.

On the evening of the 3rd. a couple of bottles were brought out for the boys. Not long after that, Willard and Cy were sitting in the house talking when Willard said, "What are the boys doing out there Cy - dancing the hay digger's glide with their bitch forks?" they were singing and having a ball and of course saddled up and went out to

## 503 679 7472 DAN'S TRACTOR SERVICE



Sometimes You Need  
More than a  
Shovel, Rake or Hoe

IMPLEMENT FOR  
EVERY JOB!

**Box Blade  
Angle Blade  
Landscape Rake  
Fork Lift  
Attachment  
Front End  
Loader  
Post Hole Auger  
Rototiller**

celebrate. But almost all of them came back to help finish the job.

They were a fine bunch of boys. They always carried their dishes from the dining room to the kitchen sink, which was a big help for me.

#### OUR LAST DAYS IN THE CANYON

In September, 1937, we took Gertrude and Orville to Pendleton, Oregon to stay with Willard's brother, Frank and family, so they could go to school.

It was the first time we had ever been away from them and we were so lonely. Willard went to upper Succor Creek to do some riding for a few days and when he came home he said he had a buyer for the place. I thought he was joking as we had never once thought of selling out.

But he said he meant it and we were going somewhere on the Oregon coast and get a dairy ranch where the children could be near school.

He said we were to go to Vale next day to meet Mr. Tom Tarr who was going to buy the canyon and all the beef stock. We were to keep the dairy stock and take them with us along with our favorite horses, Trusty, Star, Silver and Murphy.

The next morning when we were ready to leave for Vale the sun was just coming up on the high rims. I started to cry and said, "When the sun hits Nigger Head in the morning the canyon won't be ours." Willard said. "If you don't want to sell now is the tie to say no. Tomorrow will be too late."

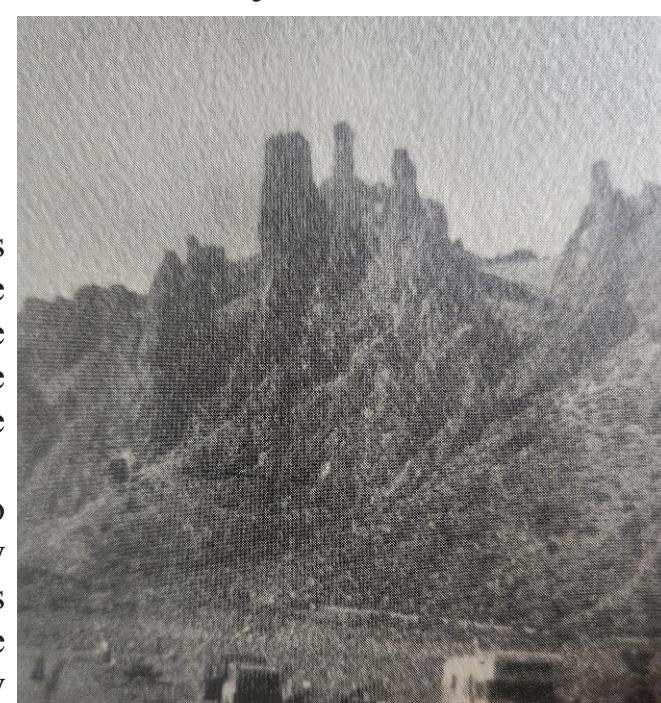
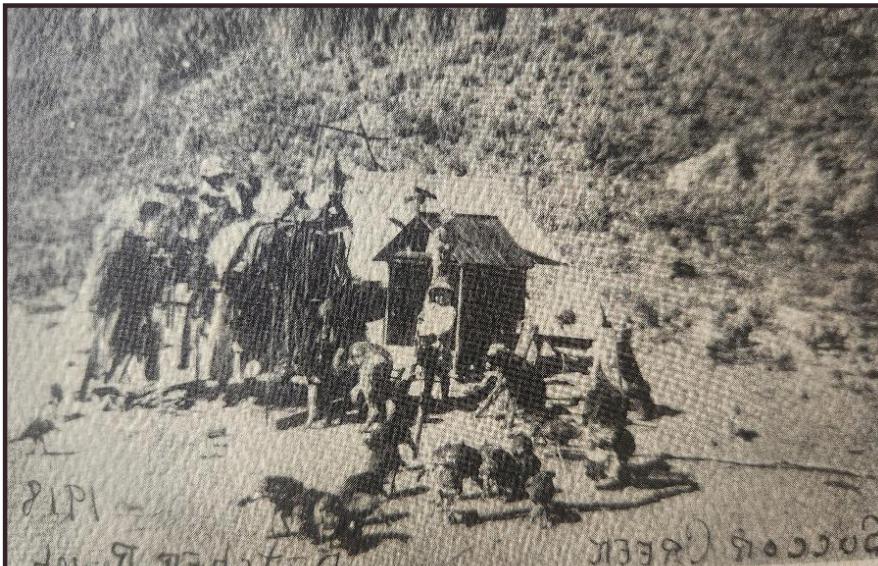
I said, "Yes, it will be better to go where the children can go to school from home and we can be together." So, we went on to Vale and the transaction was made and the deed mad out to Tarr and Mercer of Wilder.

We sent for the children and started to round up the cattle and sell off things we wouldn't be taking with us. I drove the truck through to Pendleton and Gertrude went with me. Willard and Orville drove the horses and cattle to Huntington Oregon where they were loaded in a box car. The dogs, Bobby and A pair of greyhounds belonging to Orville, Duke and Dewey, were put in the car too.

Orville and his daddy rode in the caboose of the train from Huntington to Pendleton, which was quite an experience for Orville.

They unloaded the stock at the stockyard for feed, so we could visit a few days.

If we could have looked ahead of us three weeks, we would never have sold out. Our beloved daughter had polio and we lost her November 6th. So, we never got settled in that new home near school as we had planned.



It was so hard to make a new start. We didn't know what we wanted to do. We tried to buy the canyon back again but it wasn't for sale, so we eventually moved to Lane County on the coast, where nineteen years after Orville was born, we were blessed with another son. Elden.

#### FORTY-TWO YEARS LATER

The summer of 1969, Orville and his wife Elsie, Elden and his wife, Joanne, and their children, Connie Jo, LeVonne, Willard Wesley and Wendell, and I all spent a few days in the canyon and stayed in the nice park the state has built there.

It had been forty-two years since we sold out, and many changes have been made. But, as Orville and I sat in the park going over old times, he said, "Mother, there have been many changes o the floor of the canyon, but the canyon walls will always be the same."

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

County, Oregon. February 2026 completes the process.

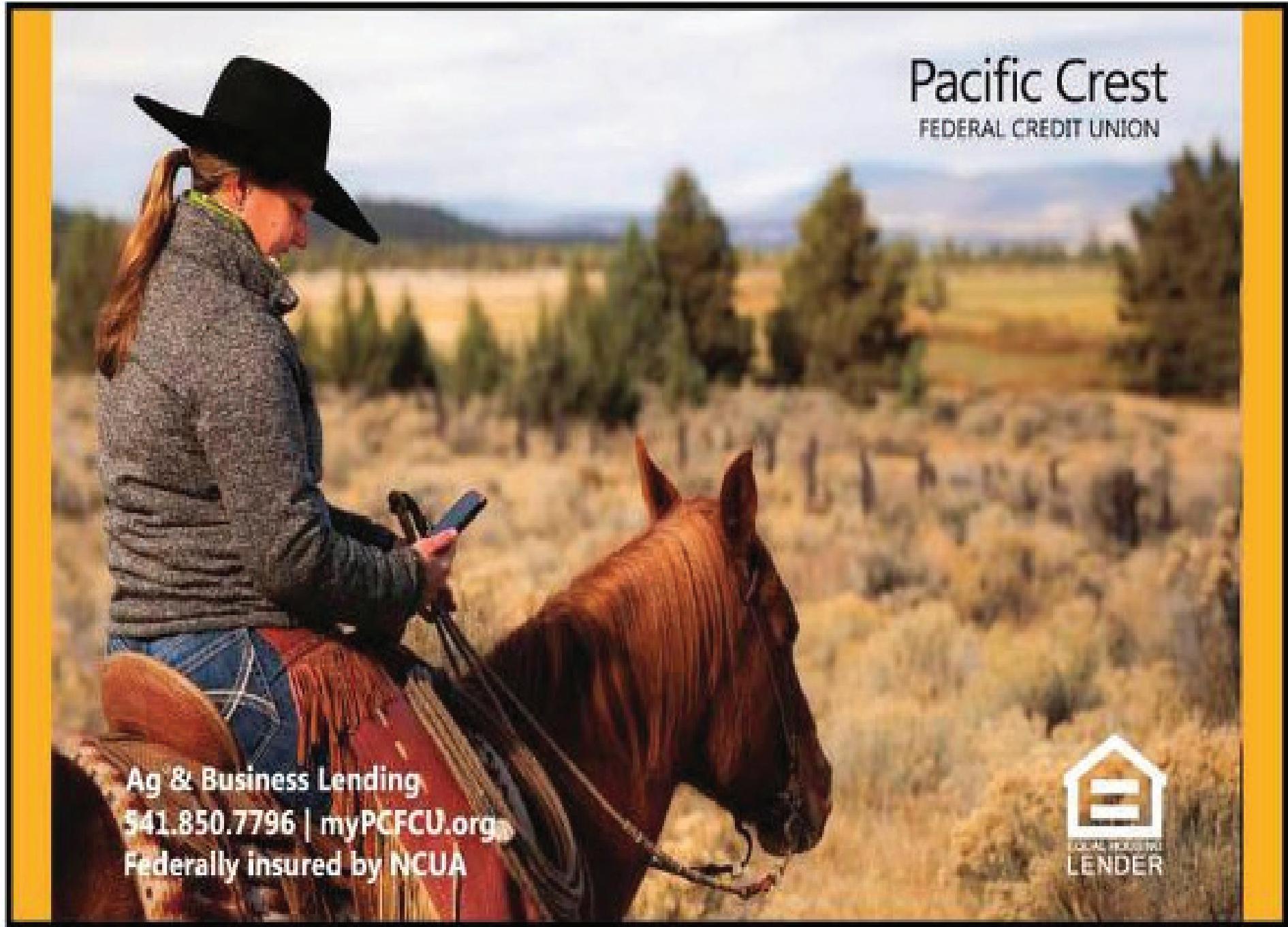
The book was first printed in 1970 when Mrs. Dutcher was 78 years old and shares her memories of homesteading during the early years of her marriage.

We hope you enjoyed the read as much as we have. And by the way, we did not pre-read the book, but learned along with readers the day to day life as well as the many adventures shared by the author. The book has many photos some of which we have included but bearing in mind the age of the book the quality is less than we would have liked.

On the inside of the cover, Ida Dutcher wrote, "After we moved to the coast of Lane County in 1929 Willard worked at the Heceta Lighthouse. Then in January 1931, we bought a place here on the Siuslaw river.

I lost Willard in a car accident in 1953. Since that time I have made my home on the Siuslaw River with my son Orville and his wife Elsie.

I keep very busy with all my hobbies, which consist of making quilts and rugs. I collect old bottles, jars, milk bottles, insulators



**Pacific Crest**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**Ag & Business Lending**  
541.850.7796 | [myPCFCU.org](http://myPCFCU.org)  
Federally insured by NCUA



## Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union to Become Sage Credit Union in 2026

Name change reflects expanded charter, growing service region, and deep connection to the sage land communities of the West.

Klamath Falls, OR - 10/14/25 - Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union announced today that, effective January 1, 2026, it will begin doing business as Sage Credit Union, marking the next step in its nearly 90-year history of serving members across the rural West. The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) recently granted the credit union an expanded charter, allowing membership to extend beyond Klamath, Lake, Modoc, and NE Siskiyou Counties into new communities across Eastern Oregon and Nevada.

"This is more than a name change - it's a reflection of who we are and who we serve," said Chad Olney, CEO of Pacific Crest FCU. "Our region is defined by its grit, resilience and a special kind of wisdom. Our new name, Sage Credit Union, honors the people and land that bind our communities together."

A Tradition of Growth, rooted in the timber industry  
Pacific Crest's history of rebranding has always followed expansions of its charter:

**1936** - Founded as 4L Credit Union to serve members of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen in Klamath Falls.

**1937** - Renamed Weyerhaeuser Credit Union as membership expanded to include mill employees.

**1960s** - Became Forest Products Credit Union to serve the broader timber industry.

**1990s** - Renamed Pacific Crest FCU when the charter grew to include all who live, work, or worship in Klamath and Lake Counties.

**Staying Rooted in Community**  
For more information about the name change and expanded charter, visit [mypcfcu.org/rebrand](http://mypcfcu.org/rebrand)

With this most recent expansion, the credit union is preparing to welcome members from six new counties beginning in 2026: Harney and Malheur in Oregon; Humboldt, Pershing, Lander,

### What's Changing, and What's Not

Beginning January 1, 2026:

**Changing:** Name - Sage Credit Union \* Website - [sagecu.org](http://sagecu.org)  
Logo and branding

**Not Changing:** Accounts, loans, usernames, passwords \*  
Debit and credit cards \* Branch locations and staff

"This is not a merger or sale," Olney emphasized. "It's the same team, the same branches, and the same commitment to community that has guided us since 1936 - just with a name that better reflects our shared future."

### Staying Rooted in Community

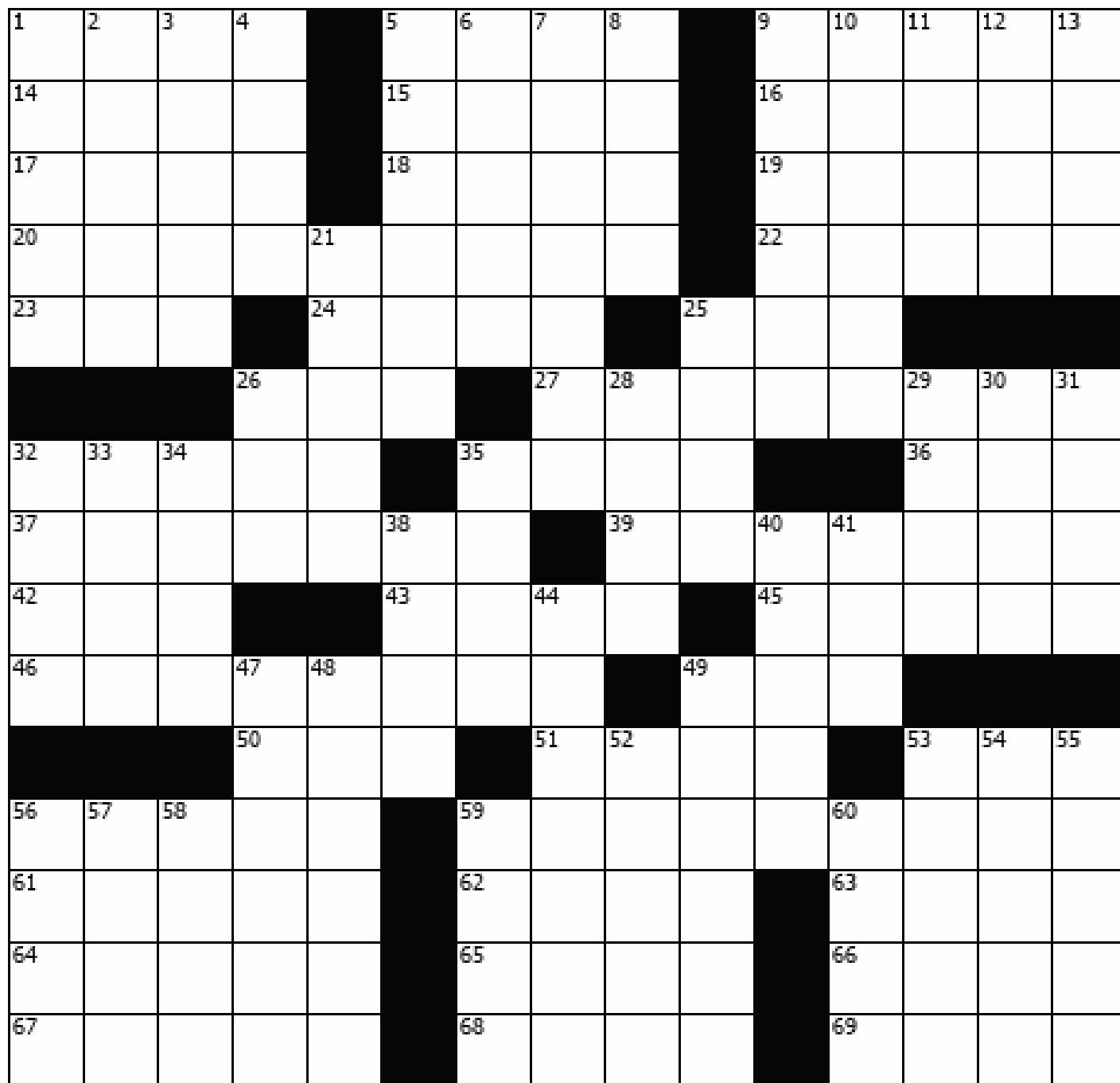
Nearly 90 years ago, ten families in Klamath Falls petitioned Congress to form a credit union to safeguard their savings and lend to one another in times of need. Today, while the technology, services, and geographic reach have expanded far beyond what those families imagined, the mission remains unchanged: to provide financial utions that benefit the community.

For more information about the name change and expanded charter, visit [mypcfcu.org/rebrand](http://mypcfcu.org/rebrand)

### About Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union

Founded in 1936, Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union has grown from a small mill-town financial cooperative that operated out of a shoebox with cash into a full-service financial institution serving more than twenty-five thousand members across Southern Oregon and Northern California. Guided by the credit union philosophy of people helping people, Pacific Crest delivers financial services designed for rural communities. On January 1, 2026, Pacific Crest FCU will become Sage Credit Union, continuing its legacy of service under a new name that reflects the strength, resilience, and wisdom of the sage land region.

## FEBRUARY CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1. Those people
- 23. Shoe front
- 5. Spongy
- 24. On a cruise
- 9. Carved pole
- 25. Kitty sound
- 14. Casino city
- 26. Apt. divisions
- 15. Bangkok native
- 27. Island off India (2 wds.)
- 16. Dickens title beginning (2 wds.)
- 32. Nosy person
- 17. Furthermore
- 35. Small earring
- 18. Infrequent
- 36. Chunk of eternity
- 19. Calm
- 37. Relate
- 20. Bunched
- 39. Disagreement
- 22. Mixed greens
- 42. Doctors' org.

- 43. Ready to pick
- 45. Bart Simpson's mom
- 46. Put up with
- 49. Small drink
- 50. 60 secs.
- 51. Brad
- 53. Have a birthday
- 56. Juliet's love
- 59. Enlarged
- 61. Ward off
- 62. Notre \_\_\_\_\_

- 63. Chinese dynasty
- 64. Highway sign
- 65. Future sign
- 66. Stable female
- 67. Look of contempt
- 68. Not as much
- 69. Washington bills

## Down

- 1. Digestive \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Greeting word
- 3. Result

- 4. Cows' calls
- 5. Tension
- 6. Chicago's airport
- 7. China, Japan, etc. (2 wds.)
- 8. Knotted
- 9. Loafer ornament
- 10. Canada's capital
- 11. Kite part
- 12. She, in Seville
- 13. Blend
- 21. Florida seaport
- 25. Skirt length
- 26. Spoil
- 28. Uncivil
- 29. At no time, in verse
- 30. "King \_\_\_\_\_"
- 31. Poker payment
- 32. Disagreement
- 33. "Finding \_\_\_\_\_"
- 34. Of the mouth
- 35. Fit of temper
- 38. Tehran's land
- 40. Grin
- 41. Tree juice
- 44. Author's pseudonym (2 wds.)
- 47. Come out
- 48. Mob scene participant
- 49. Ambulance alarms
- 52. Pinnacles
- 53. Japanese, e.g.
- 54. Kind
- 55. Margins
- 56. Male sheep
- 57. Baking chamber
- 58. Slight
- 59. Golden calf, e.g.
- 60. Bullets, for short

## 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 CVFire Hall

NL Park & Rec - 2nd Tues at 9am at The Community Hall

CV Water Board - 2nd Wed at 6 pm at District office

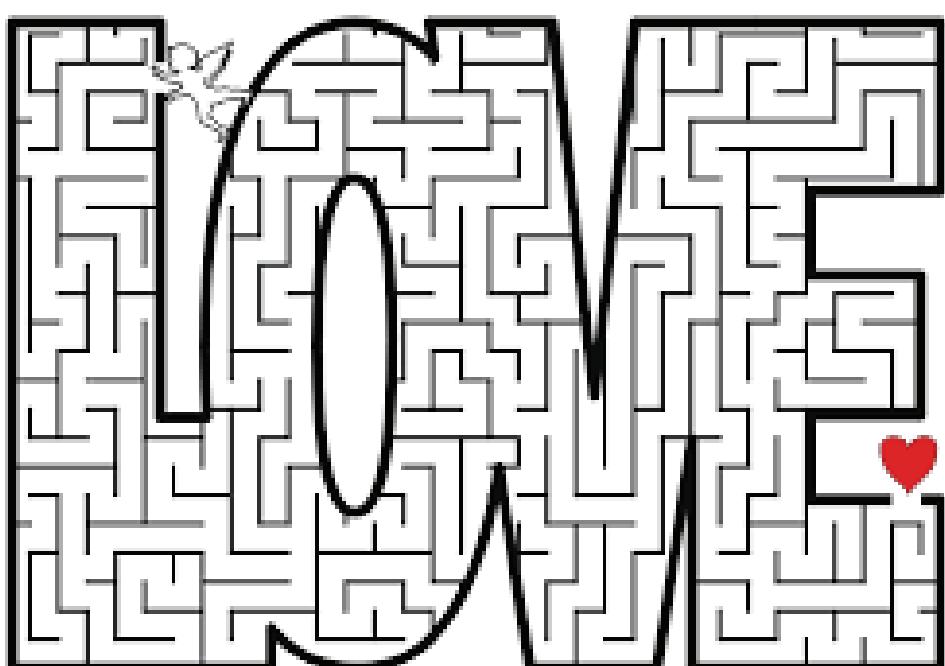
NLEMS - 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm

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





# AUTO PARTS

**\$18.99**/5 qt.  
NAPA® Premium Performance Conventional Motor Oil

SAVE UP TO 39%

**\$19.99**/5 qt.  
NAPA® High Mileage Motor Oil

SAVE UP TO 33%

**\$24.99**/5 qt.  
NAPA® Full Synthetic Motor Oil

SAVE 17%

**\$25.99**/5 qt.  
NAPA® Full Synthetic High Mileage Motor Oil

SAVE 21%

Claim a **\$25** Prepaid Card with purchase of AAA Battery

Claim a **\$20** Prepaid Card with purchase of a Legend or Legend Premium AGM Battery

BUY 1 Legend, Legend Premium AGM, or AAA Battery and claim a Prepaid Card

Please see store associate for details. Register online at NAPRebates.com by 3/15/2022. Terms & Conditions apply. Limit 2 per household.

SAVE UP TO 23%

on NIGHTVISION™ Brilliant Premium 2 Pack



2 PACK

**\$3.99**

Scott® Shop Towels Original® Roll



SAVE UP TO 52%

STARTING AT **\$16.79** (gal.)  
Valvoline™ Heavy Duty Motor Oil

Acero de Motor para Uso Intensivo Valvoline™

VAL 894015 All Terrain Motor Oil 15W40 Heavy Duty Engine Oil  
VAL 777780 Premium Blue SAE 15W40 Motor Oil  
VAL 818280 Premium Blue Synthetic Blend SAE 10W30 Motor Oil  
VAL 774038 Premium Blue Extreme Full Synthetic H.D. SAE 5W40 Motor Oil  
VAL 881173 Premium Blue Motor Oil 15W40 Heavy Duty Engine Oil

\$16.79  
\$16.99  
\$17.99  
\$24.99  
\$45.99

YOUR CHOICE **\$10.49** each  
Power Service®  
Power Service®

NCB 1026 Diesel Fuel Supplement Winterizer/Antigel  
NCB 8026 Diesel 911®

26 oz.  
26 oz.

SAVE UP TO 40%  
SAVE UP TO 30%

STARTING AT **\$5.79** (gal.)  
NAPA® Antifreeze

Anticongelante NAPA®

NCB 1026 Diesel Fuel Supplement Winterizer/Antigel  
NCB 8026 Diesel 911®

26 oz.  
26 oz.

SAVE UP TO 34%

YOUR CHOICE **\$9.49** each  
Road Runner Ice Melt

Descongelante para Superficies con Hielo Road Runner

NCB 00020 20 lb. \$9.49  
NCB 00029 12 lb. \$10.89

ICE MELT PREMIUM BLEND

UP TO 30% OFF

## Christmas Valley Auto Supply

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm ~ Sat. 9am-1pm  
8700 Christmas Valley Highway 541 508 4646**NAPA AUTO PARTS**

## LA Pine Auto Supply

Monday-Friday 7am-7pm ~ Sat. 8am-5pm ~ Sun. 9am-3pm  
HWY. 97 Downtown La Pine 541 536 2192

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR AUTO PARTS - LOCALLY OWNED

**You work hard.  
We'll work hard  
for you!****NO STRESS WITH  
point S****Get to the Point for all of your tire and auto needs, North Lake Point S has your back.**

Truck, Car, and Farm Tires • Auto Services

LOCALLY OWNED, NATIONALLY CONNECTED, AND STRESS FREE.

**point S**  
TIRE & AUTO SERVICENORTH  
LAKE541-576-2032  
87180 Christmas Valley Hwy

PointSTire.com/NorthLake • Christmas Valley