



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

terryonitswayhome@gmail.com

Comings and Goings

By Terry Crawford

I think Spring has sprung a leak and I suppose I should be happy because all my trees and flowers are getting a really deep watering, something I haven't been able to provide them. The wind, on the other hand is blowing things all over the yard as well as out into the road. At least the recently worked fields aren't blowing away like they were a few days ago. I hit a cloud of blowing dust/dirt that was worse than any fog bank I have ever encountered. The road simply disappeared, which is really scary because there is no way other cars can see yours, even with the lights on.

The Lake County Planning Commission will be holding their June 17th meeting at 6pm, at the Booster Building in Christmas Valley. Slated for discussion and community comment is the Outback Strong facility application which addresses proposed planned services to be provided - including three transitional housing rooms. More information can be found on page four. Currently the building is in the remodeling stage.

The Christmas Valley Park and Recreation District board is finally back up to five active members. They are actively assessing the district properties (Airport, Golf Course [including maintenance building and equipment], Rodeo Grounds, Lake, the Community Hall and the former Library Building) to gain insight into what needs are and what can be accomplished under the current and future budget.

I have decided to retire my wonderful horse from showing and we will now begin enjoying easy rides out on the trails and hopefully several horse-camping trips together over the summer. This means that I won't be off to a show once a month, and since I have, with the help of many volunteers, been getting the Rodeo Grounds cleaned up it's now time to hold four, possibly five **Fun with Horses Play Days**. This is not a buckle series and is not intended to put cash into rider's pockets but it is rather for riders to just enjoy some fun competition and comradely with fellow riders. There will be traditional events such as poles and barrels and maybe a keyhole but in between there will also be Egg in a Spoon, Simon Says, Sit a Buck, Water in a cup and maybe even a Toilet Paper race. Riders can plan on having to negotiate some obstacles as part of the pattern they ride. As for prizes, they will be small donations from our local businesses and individuals.

See page 3 for poster.





An Afternoon in God's Country



Page 2

Bee-cuzz You Asked

MAY and the Bees



By Gary Brain Page 6

July 3rd & 4th Events

Music at the Park

Golf Tournament

Bands and Car Show at the Lodge

Parade Through Town

Pages 8 & 9



In A Landscape

June 5, 6, 7

Hot Springs PLAYA

Ft Rock

Page 10

Activities

Boxing Pickleball Ping Pong

Music Lunches

BINGO FREE

Community Meal Game Afternoon & Evening

Page 12



Overland in a Covered Wagon

New Serialized Book

Page 13

MONTHLY CROSSWORD



Page 15



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An Afternoon in God's Country

By Marie Lee



Marie Lee

Wherever your heart is, that's God's Country. For me it's the ranch beneath Abert Rim. It has been in our family for 126 years minus five years when my great-grandfather sold it on a contract to a fellow who could not make good on the deal.

My father was raised there from the time of his fourth month. Six generations of our family have called it home.

While part of the ranch rests in the shadow of Abert Rim another section known as summer pasture is located across the valley and somewhat to the south.

There, too, is part of my heart. One of my brothers lives out his childhood dream at his a-frame cabin overlooking a little meadow on Dicks Creek. I get a kick out of causing a few blushes when I explain to the younger generation that my life began in that little meadow. My parents spent their honeymoon there while my dad herded the ranch sheep before he went off to basic training for World War II. Ten months later I was born.

When our sheep ranch became a cattle ranch, cattle were pastured there during the summer. I've been over most of it on horseback, but now with modern conveyances I have ridden through a good part of it in my son's side-by-side. (The horse gives a smoother ride!)

Sunday afternoon of Memorial Day weekend I drove up to my son's camp at the north end of Mill Lake. We toured around the lake in his side-by-side. I thought about the life of some of the giant Ponderosa Pines still standing. I thought about the giant snags blown down: how many years have they rested there; how ferocious was the storm that brought them down. We had a small thrill when a brown bear cub escaped his mother's eye and nearly ran in to our camp!

Driving home we went through a swath of fire salvage from the Cougar Peak Fire of 2021. Wow! I remembered that Saturday afternoon when a fierce wind caught the already burning fire and how it tore through the forest at a speed faster than the best fire equipment could manage.



That evening, back in 2021, a friend called to ask if I was looking for a fire story. She and I traveled up Clover Flat Road, the next morning, to a ranch where the fire had taken a house and several out buildings. We walked around the ruins while the stunned ranch owner pointed out a brand-new water heater he had just installed. It hissed and sputtered as water continued to force its way through a burned valve. Scorched dead chickens remained where they had flopped from heat exhaustion.

Mysteriously the fire had missed their barn and corrals located on the edge of a minuscule meadow. A neighbor's cattle truck drove up with some of the burned-out rancher's cows. He perked up some with the realization that some of his livestock had escaped the fire's wrath.

And here was the real story. As Valley Falls area ranchers saw the telltale smoke of fire that was burning hot and fast, neighbors and friends quickly gathered to move cattle. Some had cows in the mountains and meadows around Clover Flat. They began a dragnet of gathering and pushing every

cow they could find. They made as wide a sweep as they dared from the south end of the Clover Flat area driving the cattle downhill along Willow Creek and finally to a field at Valley Falls.

My nephew and his wife were part of that operation and they took along their ten-year-old son, my great-nephew, Jack. Jack was only one of several children who along with their adult counterparts drove nervous, bawling cows as fast as they could manage—boys and girls country raised who could handle a working horse from the time their legs could reach a shortened stirrup.

Pickups pulling horse trailers and supplied with water and sodas remained close—just in case. The kids quickly discovered that a few rocks rattling around in empty soda cans helped to keep frightened cattle headed in the right direction.

Neighbors helping neighbors is an ageless command given to mankind. It's about parents who teach their children to help others whose need is greater than their own. Jack's grandmother was a little distraught that they allowed him to be part of such an experience. I told her that Jack had a day he will always remember: Jack will tell his children and his children's children and his nieces and nephews until he, himself, reaches his grave.

Yes, indeed, this is God's Country!

*Note: I wrote the story of those kids and their cattle drive for an edition of RANGE Magazine that was published in the fall of 2021.

Happy Foster Endings

By Kathy Allen



Fostering isn't just a temporary solution; It's a cornerstone of building a healthier, more compassionate community for all the pets that share our homes.

When you open your home, you're not only giving an animal a second chance, but you're also directly easing the burden on our Humane Society allowing them to help other animals. Best of all, the Humane Society of North Lake County provides all the food and medical care your foster animal needs, so your only job is to provide love and a safe space.



Consider the story of a local couple who recently welcomed an eight-week-old puppy into their lives. What began as a temporary foster placement quickly became something permanent as they fell in love with her and realized she had already found her forever home with them.



Then there's the heartwarming experience of a local man who decided to foster a dog after when her beloved owner passed away. The dog was in rough shape, but with patience, love and plenty of exercise, she blossomed. The man realized he couldn't let her go, and she became a

permanent member of his pack, getting along wonderfully with his other dogs.

If you would like to learn more about joining this wonderful program, you can call the Humane Society 831-601-9769. You can also attend an upcoming meeting about fostering at the Community Hall in Christmas Valley to be held in the coming weeks. *(No date set yet)*

Fun With Horses Play Days

June 13, July 11, August 8 & September 18

\$10 for the day!

Barrels & Poles

541 480 0753

Egg in Spoon

Sit a Buck

Simon Says

Water in Cup

PRIZES!

Sign-up @ 9am

Games start at 9:30

CV Rodeo Grounds

This is not a buckle series and is not intended to put cash into rider's pockets but it is rather for riders to just enjoy some fun competition and comradely with fellow riders.



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Planning Commission to Meet in Christmas Valley on June 16th

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the Lake County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:00pm, by Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84185606888> or in-person at the Christmas Valley Booster Club building at 86962 Aspen Lane, Christmas Valley, Oregon, to receive public comment and testimony on the following application.

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. 26-023-CUP Public Hearing concerning an application by Outback Strong to establish a Residential Home/Facility on a 0.54-acre parcel, described as T27S R17E S10CD TL22200 and TL25700, in an existing building at 57276 Park Road, Christmas Valley; in a C-1 Commercial Use Zone, with a Comprehensive Plan Designation of C – Commercial.

A decision will be based on Articles 1, 9 and 24 of the amended Lake County Zoning Ordinance of 1980. Published by the Lake County Planning Department, June 3, 2026.

Narrative from the Application Materials:

With the support of grant funds, 57276 Park Road was purchased by Outback Strong for the purpose of establishing transitional housing to community members in need.

Transitional housing includes treatment and permanency planning.

This location will house the offices of the clinicians that will provide the services to those in need of the transitional housing, as well as other individuals needing services but not housing. It will include a general gathering area for residents and peers as a drop-in support center for those needing additional contact during the day.

The three (3) transitional rooms will provide a temporary space for five or fewer individuals who need not be related in conjunction with treatment.

RE: Application pending before the Lake County Planning Department.

Daniel Miles, has applied for a Lake County Zoning Permit that could enable a Farm Dwelling duplex to be constructed on Tax lot 100, a 9.55-acre parcel in conjunction with well over 160.00-acres, which will be used as a residence(s) in connection with the Farm/Ranch operations owned by the Miles. The property is described as within Township 27 South, Range 16 East, Section 18, Tax lot 100, Assessor's Account #2966. The

Lake County Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan allow this application to be reviewed administratively due to the large lot/tract size of the farm/ranch operations. The property is zoned A-2, Agriculture Use with the Comprehensive Plan Designation of A, Agriculture; see Article 3, for Uses allowed in the A-2 zone and Article 1 for the processing of this Zoning Permit.

Should you have any concerns about the tentative approval, please provide the comments referring to File #26-022-ZP to the Lake County Planning Department no later than 5pm, Friday, June 5, 2026.

Failure to raise an issue in writing or to provide sufficient specificity precludes your ability to appeal the decision. Should you have further questions or concerns on this matter, please call me at 541-947-6036 or email djohnson@co.lake.or.us.

Dorcas Depot

Dorcas Depot is a volunteer-run secondhand store in Christmas Valley and is sponsored by the Christmas Valley Community Church. It's located on Aspen, just off Rainbow.

Dorcas offers mostly clothing as well as a variety of household items. The prices are hard to beat, especially during our popular One-Dollar Bag sales. All proceeds go directly back into the community for emergency needs.

We truly enjoy serving our community this way and are deeply grateful for the donations and volunteers who make this ministry possible.

In recent months we have experienced an increasing theft of the donated items that have been left outside the building after hours. Many donations have been taken before volunteers were able to bring them inside.

There is a solution to this problem. We would appreciate all donations be dropped off only during the days we are open: Wednesday and Saturday from noon to 4pm. This will ensure your donation is put to good use in our community.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

The Community Breeze

Is published monthly reaches 1000 households through set-out and mail - 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 - terryonitswayhome@gmail.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.

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

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Fast and easy, this versatile Main Dish Salad uses precooked Chicken as the protein. The ‘recipe’ comes from my dear friend and mentor, Ann Person, creator of 'STRETCH AND SEW' who in the 1960's, traveled the Eugene- Springfield area and beyond in her Studebaker, teaching ladies how to work with the ‘new’ stretch polyester fabric in their homes. Ann was an artist in many mediums, a flower gardener, potter and fabulous cook! She built a Fortune 500 Company on guts and faith in God. And she gave me this recipe and showed me that rich folks can be selfless, faith filled, principled and awesome people! She loved to throw a party for her employees and family! None of the measurements are precise so have fun with it. Make it your own.

Ann’s Curry Chicken Salad

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 whole Chicken
- 1 Can of sliced Water Chestnuts
- 1 Cup Raisins (or more to taste)
- 1/2 a Stalk of Celery (Again more to taste)
- 5 Green Onions(probably enough)
- “Lots” of Curry Powder (until salad has yellow color)
- 1/4 - 1/2 tsp Ginger Powder (I’ve used grated fresh ginger)
- Few shakes of Dry Mustard
- Lots of Real Mayo (Best Foods is best, or Winco brand)



Boil, debone and cube or shred up the Chicken (use left over or rotisserie Chicken if you want.)

Slice up Celery and Green Onions.

Dump the whole lot in a big bowl with the Raisins and drained Water Chestnuts.

Mix everything together with big glob of Mayo adding more as needed to moisten and bind everything together; add spices and continue to mix until everything is combined, tasting as you go along until you are satisfied with the flavor.

That's it! Spoon onto a bed of crispy lettuce , add some French Bread or crisp Crackers and you have a cool, quick meal. Enjoy!

Note: If you like, add your favorite nuts, fresh apples, other dried fruits, slivered red onions in place of green ones. It’s up to you!

Bee-Cuzz You Asked

MAY and the Bees

By Gary A. Brain Summer Lake Apiaries

Here it is May already! May is busy for most all beekeepers with installing nucs and package bees, feeding, checking the Queen Mother's laying pattern, watching for swarms to gather

May. Weather was perfect for the first inspection. I opened up the nucs and found they had almost doubled in size so I put another deep box and frames on each of the nucs. I plan to do another check of the new bees at the end of the

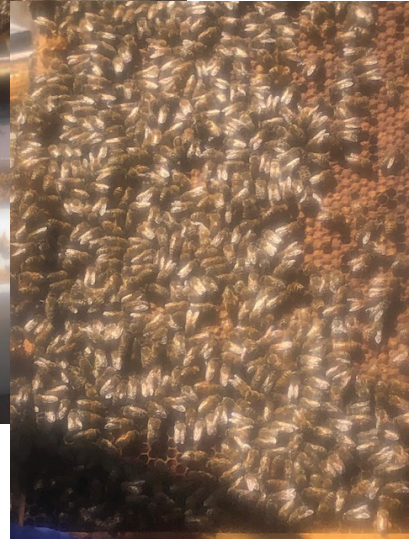
when you are inspecting the hives. And work your hives from the side or back to stay out of their flight path. When working your hive, inspect by removing an outside frame first. Consider adding supers to your hives. If you have supers with drawn comb from last year you can add more than one super at a time.

If the girls need to draw new comb just add one super

to keep the Queen Mother from building brood in your supers. Do not remove any supers until they are capped, as the uncapped honey will ferment. Remember to keep the grass mowed in front of your hives. Give the girls a clear runway to land! You can lay old carpet scraps or roofing to help keep the grass under control.

Keep your record keeping up to date, as this will let you know what hives did well and what you found during your inspections.

If you can, keep an extra brood box handy. You may need to capture a swarm. Swarms are an awesome sight to see, thousands of bees hanging on a limb or post. Capturing it is fairly simple if the swarm is not too high up in a tree!



and, making sure your hives have room to expand so they won't get overcrowded and swarm.

I got a call from Matt the Bee Guy at Apricot Apiaries and he said I had two nucs ready to pick up May 18th. If you want top quality bees go the Apricot Apiaries. His "Muts" are the best for the high desert.

I got home and had to wait for the next day to install the girls. The girls were calm and I found the Queen Mother and saw both open and capped brood so, we installed the nucs. I left three open frames with pulled comb at one end of the new deep box and 2 at the other end of the opposite end of the deep brood box. I pulled the five frames out of the girls home putting the nuc frames in the order of where they were in the nuc box.

The nuc frames need to go into the new brood box in the order they came out of the nuc box as the girls have a sense of order and we don't want to confuse them any more than we have to.

Feeders were placed on each of the new hives and filled with 1 to 1 sugar syrup along with a 5 gallon bucket feeder of 1 to 1 syrup on a common feeder as well.

Fast forward to the 24th of

month. I also split some of my hives and will have some queens from Apricot Apiaries to hopefully expand my adventure.

Now onto what to be mindful of in May.

In May, remember to work your hives with slow deliberate motions. Jerky movements will agitate the girls. Inspect to see if the Queen Mother is doing her job. Consider replacing her if she has spotty brood pattern or is giving you mostly drones. (The girls may have already decided to replace her.) If you see a queen cell in the upper or middle of the brood frame that comes straight out of a worker cell and takes a 90 degree turn down, that is usually a sign the girls are not happy with the reigning Queen Mother and they are in the process of replacing her. I have one hive that I am watching where the girls are building this kind of queen cell. It will be interesting to see what happens. I'll keep you all informed.

Remember, diligent use of your smoker will keep the girls from getting too riled up

at a time. Put your second on after the first is almost filled. This will prevent the girls from only building comb in the centers of the supers. Bees are hoarders so as they fill up the available space with honey give them more room to bring in the gold!

Use your queen excluders

Bless and remember our fathers and soldiers who fought and died for our republic on this Memorial Day.

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9
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Menu



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Tournament
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More Info on
Page 12



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2026 July 4th Parade Entry

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- CHILDREN**\$ 1 per child
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- FARM** \$ 10
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- INDIVIDUAL** \$ 5 each
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Sign-up at 8am at the first tee
Play begins at 9am
9 hole - 4-Man best ball format
\$20 Members and \$35 Non Members

Long Putt 50/50 Contest
At the Practice Green

BBQ to Follow at the
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on hole 6
Burgers, Dogs, lots of Sides

Awards and Raffle Prizes



Christmas Valley Lodge: Live Music - Car Show & More

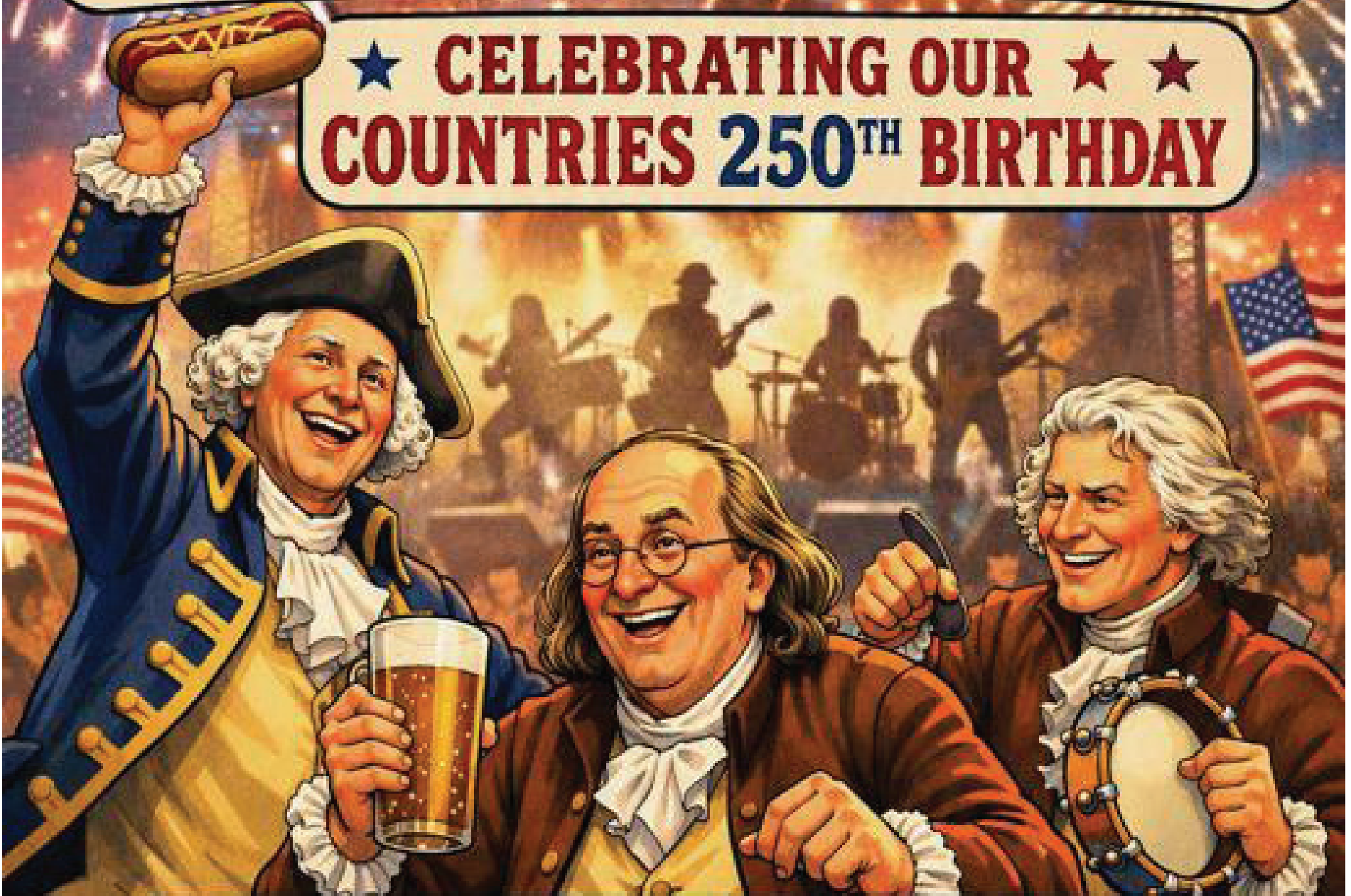


Come celebrate the Fourth and
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Friday the 3rd and Three bands on
Saturday the 4th!

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3:00PM WAMPUS CATS
4:30PM UNEMPLOYED COWBOYS
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★ **FLOWERREE** ★
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IN A LANDSCAPE & Hunter Noack Partner with Oregon Public Broadcasting to Celebrate the Vistas and Voices of Lake County

IN A LANDSCAPE: Classical Music in the Wild™ returns to Lake County and brings partner Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) for a weekend celebrating the region's rural communities and wild beauty. Three concerts are free for residents of Lake and Klamath Counties, taking place on June 5, 6, and 7 at Summer Lake Hot Springs, PLAYA, and Fort Rock State Natural Area.

In keeping with its nonprofit mission, IN A LANDSCAPE presents primarily in rural areas with approximately 25 percent of the audience attending for free through a combination of Good Neighbor Program tickets and other complimentary admissions. Founded by Noack in 2016, IN A LANDSCAPE works to remove barriers to live classical music and fosters deeper connections to the natural world by partnering with national and state parks, land trusts, conservancies, historical societies, Native American reservations, and schools.

Beyond their signature outdoor concerts featuring Hunter Noack on a 9-foot Steinway Model D piano, this year the nonprofit will host three socials in Lake County, where locals are invited to meet and visit with OPB CEO Rachel Smolkin.

Under Smolkin's leadership, OPB has worked to expand its presence in Eastern Oregon—hiring rural reporters and producers and organizing listening sessions to better understand key aspects of rural life. This partnership with IN A LANDSCAPE is a natural extension of their work: meeting communities where they are, witnessing the places they love.



"We think of this as a first cup of coffee," said IN A LANDSCAPE Executive Director, Lori Noack. "The best outcome is for Rachel to hear how people feel OPB represents their region—and to begin building the kind of relationships that help rural Oregon voices be genuinely heard."

Smolkin will be present and available throughout the weekend at several informal and semiformal gatherings, with a particular hope of meeting Lake County residents face-to-face.

The Weekend at a Glance

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 – CONCERT PRECEDED BY LOCALS MEET & GREET

- 5:00–7:00 PM | Meet & Greet with OPB CEO Rachel Smolkin — Paisley Pioneer Saloon. Join Rachel Smolkin & Hunter Noack for an informal evening of conversation. A free and open opportunity to share what's on your mind.
- 9:30–11:00 PM | IN A LANDSCAPE Concert — Summer Lake Hot Springs (DarkSky). A rare opportunity to see Hunter Noack perform a concert under the stars in the Oregon Outback, the world's largest certified Dark Sky Sanctuary. Free for Lake & Klamath County residents. Registration required.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 — PLAYA CONCERT FOLLOWED BY LOCALS FORUM

- 4:00–5:30 PM | IN A LANDSCAPE Concert — PLAYA Arts and Science Residency. An afternoon concert at one of Oregon's most inspiring creative campuses, surrounded by the wetlands and rimrock of Summer Lake. Free for Lake & Klamath County residents. Registration required.
- 6:00–8:00 PM | Listening Session — PLAYA. A more formal gathering focused on rural life and what locals would like to see reflected in Oregon's public media coverage.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 — FORT ROCK SNA CONCERT FOLLOWED BY MEET & GREET AT THE GRANGE PIE SOCIAL

- 4:00–5:30 PM | IN A LANDSCAPE Concert — Fort Rock State Natural Area. The weekend's finale at the base of an ancient volcanic landmark, one of Oregon's most dramatic and untouched landscapes. Free for Lake & Klamath County residents. Registration required.
- 6:00 PM | Grange Pie Social and Meet & Greet with the OPB Team — Fort Rock Grange. A beloved community tradition gives a warm welcome to Rachel and the OPB team. (A \$5 suggested minimum donation for a slice of pie w/ ice cream and a roomful of good company.) All proceeds support the Fort Rock Grange. Everyone is welcome to bring a pie.

A Weekend for Everyone

IN A LANDSCAPE's Good Neighbor Program ensures that access is never a barrier. A number of free and reduced-price tickets are available for those who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Residents of Lake and Klamath Counties (local ID required at concert check-in) can access this program using promo code INTHEWILD at checkout.

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CHRISTMAS VALLEY LODGE

Dart Tournament Fundraiser

Final Tournament is June 13

We're raising money for our Free July 4th Music Festival

\$20 Buy-in
Half the proceeds go toward the Festival Fund!
Winner takes the other half!

BLIND DRAW,
DOUBLE ELIMINATION



Help support our FREE two-day Music Festival July 4th weekend on the Lodge's back lawn. Come down, have some fun with us! Sign ups at 2pm, darts fly at 3pm

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 @ CV Community Hall from Noon-3pm.



Contact info, 541.536.3476
FB page, CV JAMMERS

PICKLEBALL at the COMMUNITY HALL & AT NORTH LAKE SCHOOL

CURRENTLY WE ARE PLAYING AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 1PM & 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



SPONSORED BY:
Christmas Valley/North Lake Chamber with the support of Christmas Valley Park and Recreation District and North lake School

BINGO

Every First & Third Thursday 6pm At the Christmas Valley Community Hall

There will be prizes, food, and for sure, good times!

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. Boxing truly is his passion, and he is a great coach and trainer.

Boxing is a great physical activity for everyone - including people with mobility issues. It isn't about getting in a ring and sparring 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 and Boosts Self-Confidence & Discipline

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

FREE Community Meal

Tuesdays, 11am Followed by an afternoon of games and snacks.



Everyone is Welcome! At the Christmas Valley Community Hall

DONATIONS APPRECIATED
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SENIOR LUNCHES

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



OVERLAND In A COVERED WAGON

An autobiography
By Joaquin Miller
First published in 1909



It took him (father) and mother a long time to get the horses and wagon out and over the stream, but they were very patient and quite about it and built a big fire and camped there for the night. It was my first camp, the first of a lifetime, mainly of camps and I was exultant with delight. the horses had hay and oats from the feed trough that hung at the back of the wagon and the rattling of the bridles and harness and the munching of the hay was as music I had heard in another world.

Then mother made supper as we dried our clothes by the roaring fire and spread a table cloth on the ground under the stars and we all sat down on the ground and papa said grace and thanked god that we were all safe across the angry waters. As the hearty meal concluded, mother went to the wagon and taking out a bottle of preserves she came and sat down by papa and slyly unrolled from tissue paper three little silver teaspoons, and handed one to each of her three little boys.

"Why, Margaret," said papa.

Then mother laid her head on his shoulder and cried. I had never seen mother cry before and it was a long time before we could eat the preserves. I never saw the little spoons any more, but wondered a thousand times why mother cried and what became of the little teaspoons. Nearly thirty years after, when the world was coming my way a little, I went back to my mother's people there, none of whom I had ever seen to remember, and told a venerable aunt of this, my earliest recollection and the incident about the teaspoons, and asked her why mother had cried.

She shook her head sadly, and then told me that after Grandpapa Witt had divided up his ample fortune with hhis many children that papa had aspired to be a merchant--"storekeeper" it

was called then. But being too openhanded, he had the sheriff in the house in less than a year. In those days nothing was exempt--nothing, not even your bed, or tableware. But mother had saved the three teaspoons for her three little boys--a blessed deed for dear mother, but papa did not know it until then, and in the simplicity of his honest heart he felt on seeing them that the sheriff should have had the three teaspoons along with all the other things.

I recall Randolph county only as a sea of sugar trees, with here and there a little island of stumps, a cabin and a struggling little field of corn encircled with a high rail fence--too high for us little boys to climb. We, in going to school or to the sugar camp, always had a "creep hole," Gates were not known in those days. The cabin in which we found ourselves after we had "stalled" in the stream was one that had been abandoned by the owner of the ground.

The school house was a cabin with but one room and a huge fireplace that took up nearly the entire end of the edifice.

The three big girls that came to school hung their shawls and poke bonnets (right) on pegs behind the door. There were about a dozen big boys, and they and papa kept the big fireplace roaring and blazing. This was the only way to keep warm. "The floor was the solid earth and the windows were long, narrow strips of greased paper. This gave not such a bad light as might be imagined; nor was it at all primitive. I have seen in later years of my life whole cities in the interior of China with no other windows in their finest houses that oiled paper.

These big boys would snowball, whoop, and hurrah during recess, after they had cut and carried in plenty of wood; but they were good boys and tried hard to improve. Most of them were full grown, and none of them aspired to anything beyond reading and writing. The writing desks were made of big puncheons (thin rough boards split from logs) hewn from maple logs, resting on enormous pegs



driven into the wall. Papa made all the pens from goose quills brought in by the big boys and set all the "copy."

The big boys were good to papa and very good natured toward my elder brother and myself, the only little ones in school. One of these tall and ungainly big boys went to "Congress, then to the Mexican war, became a famous general, then, was made governor of Oregon, then Senator, and in the early sixties was chosen as candidate for Vice President on the ticket with Breckenridge, who was beaten by Abraham Lincoln.

There was one big boy, Alexander, who came to school entirely barefooted, although there was frost on the ground and often snow. Papa would not let him help getting in the firewood, and in return Alec would be first at school in the morning and have a roaring big fire going by the time "the master" came.

Everybody was very, very poor. The scholars had to pay their own tuition entirely; the free school had not yet penetrated the dense maple tree wilderness of that region. (There were no free schools in Indiana at that time). The only source of income was the sugar camp, supplemented by an occasional coon skin, These were "cash" at 50 cents and sugar was ready money at a round figure, because the Indians who had sold their sugar camps bought the sugar; but the season was short for the sugar camps at best and poverty prevailed with piteous uniformity.

At last there was a breath of spring in the tossing tops of the maple trees and gray black and fox squirrels (common to the Midwest), began to leap from branch to branch overhead and chatter and quirk their tossy tails, the crows cawed and cawed from the tallest tree tops, the blue day jawed us from the spice and hazel bush as we passed and the school was dismissed, for it was "sugar making time."

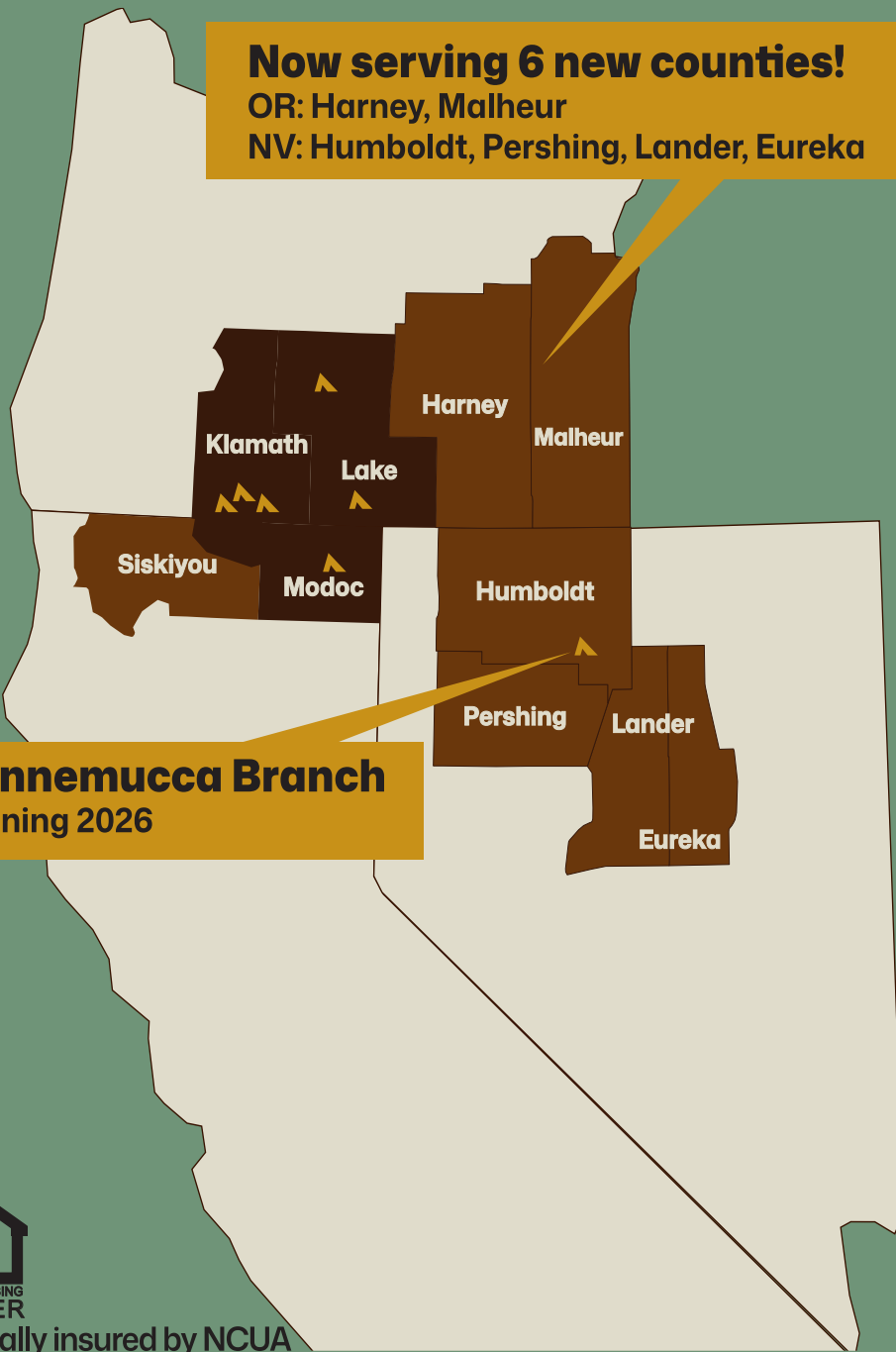


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opening 2026

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Sage Credit Union (previously Pacific Crest FCU) was founded in 1936, originally serving timber industry employees and their families. Over time, we've grown alongside the communities we serve, updated the technology, and stayed focused on what matters most: providing trusted, local financial support.

Today, we're expanding across our region. The Lakeview branch is moving into a larger location, and we're excited to open a branch in **Winnemucca in 2026!**



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JUNE CROSSWORD

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- 4. Materialize
- 5. American-style imaret
- 6. 1860s insignia
- 7. Start of a tale
- 8. Preferences
- 9. Paramount Pictures mogul Zukor
- 10. D.C. bill collector?
- 11. Buildup to a race
- 12. One on a high horse
- 13. Angela Lansbury role
- 18. Shoe forerunner
- 22. Warrants
- 24. Payday haul
- 26. One of the Flagstons, in the funnies
- 27. Yucatan settler
- 28. Like Crusoe before Friday
- 29. Spots for big sendoffs
- 31. Saying
- 33. "Desert Fox" Rommel
- 34. 14-pounder
- 37. Drag through the mud
- 40. Solemn ceremonies
- 41. Chicken's distinction
- 42. Disgrace
- 47. Paul's longest letter
- 49. Put down
- 51. Drug buster
- 53. Table type
- 54. Blue ox of note
- 55. Blimp-like
- 57. Whirled
- 59. Informed about
- 60. Ticket leftover
- 61. African cobras
- 63. Clandestine org.
- 64. "Where the Boys _____"

Across

- 1. Concubine center
- 6. Some mixers
- 11. Record speed?
- 14. Battle to remember
- 15. Derisive
- 16. Mesozoic, e.g.
- 17. Part 1 of a method for regaining strength
- 19. Objective
- 20. Boom box
- 21. Underwater cave dweller
- 22. Upper hand
- 23. Brightness
- 25. Spread apart
- 27. Kind of bonding
- 30. Scottish topper
- 32. Mounts
- 35. King preceder
- 36. Hollywood giants?
- 38. Motionless
- 39. Part 2 of the method
- 43. "Tomorrow" singer
- 44. WWII gun
- 45. Popular card game
- 46. Heavenly fare
- 48. Klutz
- 49. Over with
- 50. Long-necked wader
- 52. Word with birth or interest
- 54. Jazzy tunes
- 56. Nanas' daughters
- 58. Champagne drink
- 62. Actress Gardner

Down

- 63. End of the method
- 65. Like Leroy Brown
- 66. Bring upon oneself
- 67. Devour
- 68. Two-time U.S. Open champ
- 69. Unanimously
- 70. Those on high horses

Down

- 1. Millinery stock
- 2. Hordes
- 3. In thing

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 Wednesday 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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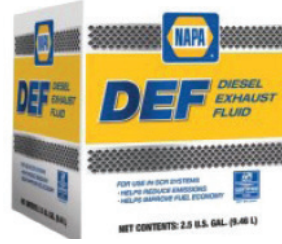
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