

Mitchell Sentinel

Fearless, Fair and Free

Mitchell, Wheeler County, Oregon, Wednesday, July 16, 2025, Issue #33

Letter to the
Editor
page 2

Obituary
Merl Helms
page 3

Mitchell
Ambulance
Chat
page 4

Mitchell 2025
School Reunion
page 5

Crossword
Puzzle
page 10

Unforgettable
Folks Series
page 6

Senior Meal
MENU
page 16

Open Mic Night
Thursdays
6 pm - 7:30 pm
@Mitchell
Community Hall

Mitchell BINGO
Friday, July 25th
@Mitchell
Community Hall

Fossil Food
Pantry
Distribution
Tuesday,
July 22nd
9 am-12 noon
For more info:
Dawn Garcia
(310)486-2397
We served 80
families last
month!

ODOT to Close Mitchell Maintenance Shop

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will close its maintenance shop in Mitchell at the end of July, laying off all four remaining employees as part of sweeping statewide budget cuts driven by a \$354 million shortfall. Mitchell, which once had seven full-time ODOT staff, will now be left without a single maintenance worker. The closure, along with drastic staffing reductions in Spray and Condon, is expected to severely impact rural road safety and accessibility in Wheeler County, especially as the region approaches winter. The decision blindsided local leaders; Wheeler County Judge Lynn Morley said he received no prior notice about the closure.

ODOT field staff have warned that the consequences could be “catastrophic,” particularly in areas like Mitchell that already face rockslides, flash floods, steep canyon roads, and dangerous winter driving conditions. With the Fossil Ambulance service shut down since August 2024, emergency response in the region is already limited. Now, with no local ODOT crew left to maintain roads, clear snow, or respond to hazards, officials and residents fear that delays and road closures will increase significantly, putting lives and commerce at risk. As Mitchell braces for the loss, state leaders have yet to call a special session to address the transportation crisis or provide solutions for the affected communities. ■ [Source: The Times Journal | ODOT to close Mitchell maintenance shop, cut rural staff as funding crisis deepens | Stephen Allen | Last updated Jul 08, 2025 6:22pm]

Contact Representative Greg Smith: (541) 993-5236 or rep.gregsmith@oregonlegislature.gov

Mitchell's Plesiosaur Returns Home

The Mitchell Plesiosaur is home in the Mitchell School Library, which is across the athletic field from its inception. The Wheeler County Court and directors of the Oregon Paleo Lands Institute decided it should come home to where it was created. Kristi Dennis, the Librarian and now Curator of the Creature, invites all to see and use the library on Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 noon.



Photo submitted by Dan Cannon

(cont'd on page 5)

Letter to the Editor

Subject: Letter to the Editor

To: Mitchell Sentinel <news@mitchellsentinel.com>

Dan Cannon is a walking, talking, writing memory machine!!! I am again writing to express my gratitude for all the great stories he has published that rekindle memories from my childhood. His most recent stories about my great-uncle, Bob Woodward, brought a smile to my face and thoughts of my childhood visits to Bob and Jane's ranch on the West Branch. I was often a visitor there and spent my days generally following Uncle Bob around. He was infinitely patient with all my questions and had such a wonderful understanding of the natural world that few of us have today duplicated. My favorite memory of Uncle Bob happened on one of those visits. I had been fishing in the creek in the morning and had come home just before lunch. I left my pole on the porch and entered the house, where everyone had gathered for lunch. A little while later, there was a huge commotion out in the yard. A chicken was clucking and running round and round the front yard, dragging my fishing pole! I had left the worm on my hook, and the chicken had swallowed it! I was sure I was in trouble. Everyone ran out onto the porch to see what was happening, and I followed Uncle Bob out to get the chicken. He grabbed the chicken, looked at it, and wrung its neck! I thought I was a goner for having killed a chicken! Uncle Bob looked over at me and said with a big smile, "Looks like we're having chicken for supper!". That was Uncle Bob!

Dan's article on the Ochoco Theater brought back stories my mom used to tell about my Grandpa, Mike Helms, who operated or owned the theater during the late 40s or early 50s. My dad, Roy Smith, and Uncle Paul "Toehead" Smith served as projectionists from time to time. Mom said Grandpa loved to run the movies backwards and laugh and laugh. The audience would tire of the backward viewing long before Grandpa and would start yelling at him in the projection room.

Dan also mentioned the house of ill repute between Mitchell and Dayville. I didn't know anything about that until after my dad had passed away and my mom told a story. One payday in Mitchell, all the young men who lived in the housing below the bridge didn't show up after work. They were mostly a group of young World War II vets who liked to party. When they didn't show, the wives headed to the Pastime to bring them home. They weren't

there! With a little questioning, they learned that the boys were up at the "Naughty Girl Ranch"! They took off in hot pursuit, and when they arrived, they parked in front and began hitting the horn. Mom said it was a picture from a "Keystone Cops" movie as the boys were diving out windows, putting on their clothes, jumping in cars with doors flopping!

I also enjoyed Dan's story about my Uncle Merl Helms building the fence. I am sad to report, however, that Uncle Merl passed away this past spring.

Please let Dan know how much I appreciate him stirring up so many good memories!!

- Michael "Butch" Smith

Ontiveros Tacos NOW OPEN!



ONTIVEROS TACOS

MENU

CARNES / MEATS

Pollo, Asada, Adobada, Al Pastor
Chicken, Steak, Pork

Tacos	5
Burritos	15
Tortas	12
Loaded Nachos	9
Cheese Nachos	5
Tamales (pork only)	5
Sopes	7
Gorditas	7

COMBOS

2 Tamales w/rice and beans	15
2 Tacos w/rice and beans	15

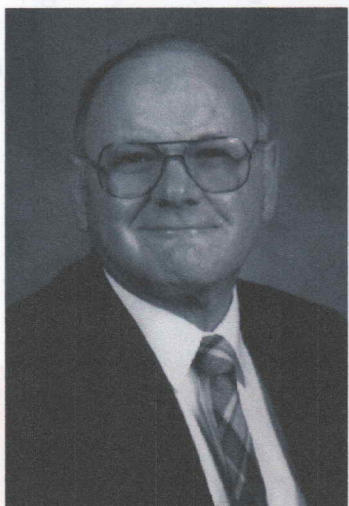
SIDES

Rice and Beans	5
----------------	---

Located on HWY 26 - NEXT DOOR to
Cannon's Tire Store & Route 26 Espresso

Merl Gene Helms Obituary

June 14, 1929 – February 3, 2025



To know him is to love him...

In Dad's own words: Born June 14, 1929, in Mitchell, Ore., to Charles Vincent Helms and Estella Jane (Nicholas) Helms. I was raised in Mitchell, attended schools in Mitchell, and graduated Mitchell Union High School in 1947. After H.S., I attended OCE for one quarter and decided college was not for me at that time.

In Mitchell, I worked for Hudspeth Pine Inc. at the Mountain Creek Mill, Spray Or. Mill, and at the Bridge Creek Mill at Mitchell. After a two-year stint in the Army, 1950–1952, serving in Germany, I returned to Mitchell and worked for Hudspeth Pine in the truck shop and as a log truck driver. In 1955, I decided to use my G.I. Bill and go to college. I enrolled at OCE in the fall of 1955 and graduated in the spring of 1959.

I met Phyllis Anne Thompson in Prineville in 1955, and we were married on February 3, 1956. My first teaching job was at Canyonville H.S. in Canyonville, Ore. We were at Canyonville for five years, then at Sunset H.S. in Beaverton, Ore. for one year. The next three years we lived and worked at the Tongue Point Job Corps Center in Astoria, Ore. In 1968 we moved to Albany, and I went to work for the Albany H.S. district, later to become the Greater Albany Public School District. From: 1968–1970 Counselor N. Albany J.H.S.; 1970–1973 Vice Principal N. Albany J.H.S.; 1973–1986 Vice Principal Memorial M.S.; and 1986–1991 Principal Memorial M.S.

I was preceded in death by my sisters, Inis Irene Jones of Biggs Junction and Mary Jane Smith of Prineville, Ore. My daughters are Claudia Fay (Bothwell) Dean, presently living in Albany, Ore. and Robin Sue Hawley of Portland, Ore. My grandsons are Dustin Bothwell, Nicholas Bothwell, Tyler Dean, Cody Dean, Steven Hawley, and Basil Hawley, and my great-grandsons are Drake Bothwell, Deegan Bothwell, Declan Bothwell, and William Hawley.

I am a member of First Evangelical Church, East Albany Lions Club, American Legion, and AARP.

Please join Merl's family at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Albany, Ore. for a memorial service and reception following (downstairs). Condolences may be expressed at www.aasum-dufour.com ■

MERL HELMS

Merl Helms was the grandson of Pike Helms, the editor of the Mitchell Sentinel. Merl was born and raised in Mitchell. Graduated from Mitchell High School in 1947. Hard to believe that he penned the song, then went on to become a successful educator.

- Dan Cannon

MITCHELL HIGH SCHOOL FIGHT SONG

(in the words of Merl Helms)

Give a cheer! Give a cheer!

For the boys who drink the beer!

In the basement of old Mitchell High!

They are brave! They are bold!

And the beer they can hold

is a story that's never been told!

For its guzzle, guzzle, guzzle,

as the beer goes down their muzzle!

Ten empty bottles in a row!!

For where'er we go, you will always know

We're the drunkards of old Mitchell High!!!

- Merl Helms

The first Mitchell Sentinel was published in March 1904 by W.P. Gillenwater and Anthony "Pike" Helms, Jr., as a six-column paper to be devoted to the interests and advancement of Southern Wheeler County. It was filled with interesting local news and also served as an advertising medium.

In July 1904, the Sentinel plant was washed away by a waterspout (cloudburst), but was soon replaced with an entirely new outfit. Mr. Helms eventually bought out his partner and carried on as editor and owner until his death in 1923. Lallah L. Gage took up the editorship until the paper was suspended in 1925.

Mitchell Ambulance Chat

July 2025

Hello everyone, and welcome to this month's chat!! This month, I want to bring you all up to date on what's going on with the ambulance.

We've added 4 new drivers to our roster over the last couple of months, which will allow our EMTs to be in the back with patients instead of driving the ambulance. The extra drivers also give us more availability when a call does come in, enabling us to respond to the scene faster. The new drivers have all been out on calls and have had the required training to drive the ambulance, which includes an emergency vehicle operations course and in-house training on radio protocols and other driver duties. We appreciate their efforts in stepping forward to help us help you!!

We are starting a new fiscal year with a workable budget in place to purchase much-needed supplies and continue our trainings. I completed an advanced Emergency Medical Technician course over the winter and will attempt to earn my certification soon. The advanced EMT licensure will allow me to perform intravenous therapies and several other procedures that the EMT license doesn't cover to better care for our patients. This step, along with increased knowledge through trainings for all of our crew, is part of our mission to provide the best pre-hospital care for all of our patients!!

We have obtained lots of free medical equipment through Wheeler County and are going to set up a mass casualty incident response vehicle based here in Mitchell and operated by Mitchell Ambulance. We are checking out a used ambulance from another town that is a donation item, and if it's good, we will bring it to town and start setting it up. The likelihood of such an incident is small, but we want to be prepared should such an incident occur and ready to provide treatment and transport for our patients in a timely manner.

Please remember that all of us are volunteers and do these things for free for all of you. Charges for ambulance service are for transport only, and no monies go to individuals. We operate almost exclusively with the revenue we generate from our services. Maintenance,

supplies, and other expenditures are paid for with these monies. There are numerous calls every year that we receive no monies from for various reasons, including no transport or handovers to another agency. We are working on ideas for fundraising, and I will keep you posted on what we come up with. We will have a booth at the Painted Hills Festival this year. Stop by and visit with us, and let us know how we're doing!

Have a safe month, everyone, and we will talk again soon!!

- **John A. Hayes, EMT - Mitchell Ambulance**



AMBULANCE VOLUNTEERS



NEEDED

TRAINING PROVIDED

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AMBULANCE FOR MORE INFO

FOSSIL (541) 763-2698
SPRAY (541) 468-2086
MITCHELL (541) 462-3043

Community Advertisement



EMERGENCY: CALL 9-1-1

NON-EMERGENCY: (541)384-2080

FIRE AGENCY CONTACTS:

Mitchell Fire Department (541)462-3111

Spray Fire Department (541)468-2008

Fossil Fire Department (541)763-2698

Bureau of Land Management (541)416-6700

Oregon Department of Forestry (541)763-2575

Wheeler County Fire & Rescue (541)763-4101

Mitchell's Plesiosaur Returns Home (cont'd from page 1)

The Mitchell Plesiosaur Project

Tiger of the Cretaceous Seas

In 2003, amateur paleontologists discovered a part of a large fossilized skull in Cretaceous rocks near Mitchell, and in 2004, scientists excavated the fossil and found that the skull belonged to a Plesiosaur—a marine reptile that lived in shallow seas during the Age of Dinosaurs, 80 to 100 million years ago. The Mitchell Plesiosaur, estimated to be 25 feet long, was the first of its kind to be found in Oregon.

CHAPTER 7: THE MITCHELL PLESIOSAUR PROJECT

The Plesiosaur Project was developed through collaboration between the Oregon Paleo Lands Institute and the Mitchell School to integrate hands-on learning about the landscape with classroom-based math, science, art, and writing, and produce a tangible outcome for all involved.

Our part of the project was to help bring the Plesiosaur that lived not far from Mitchell to life, and to help people understand where and how it lived. We studied the sea floor and all the animals that lived there. We learned about how fast our Plesiosaur could swim, what it ate, and how big its teeth were. We did research to understand more about the beach, sea floor, and river. We learned what Mitchell looked like in the Age of Dinosaurs. We measured and drew a full-sized Plesiosaur on our tennis court, made a replica of the Cretaceous sea floor for the exhibit, and wrote this book to share the Plesiosaur and its long-vanished environment with you.

The Plesiosaur Sculpture:

As another part of the Plesiosaur Project, high school students in Mitchell's Vo-Ag metal shop built a half-scale, 12-foot-long replica of the plesiosaur. This was a major part of the metal shop curriculum in Spring 2009. The Mitchell school Vo-Ag metal shop students—Kolton Collins, Cody Day, Nestor Fermin, Jacob Ferra, Arnie Fox, Kristen Kelly, William Lindquist, Serf Sanders, and Jake Tolton—worked under the expert guidance of metal sculptor and artist Larry Williams and Felipe Zamora. The 3rd-4th-5th grade also crafted a replica of the sea floor and Cretaceous sea life there that will be part of this exhibit.

Other classes at Mitchell also participated in the project, including the high school biology class, which studied the animals through time as part of their evolution curriculum.

AUTHORS, ARTISTS, ADVISORS & INSTRUCTORS

The authors and artists of this book were all the students in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades at Mitchell School in 2009—Charity

Reed, Laci N. Domenighini, Chance Osborn, Cheyanne N. Collins, Justice K. Collins, Sarah A. Ehmer, Alexander Temple, Estela Ontiveros, Melissa Mueller, and Hedy Ontiveros. The Advisors & Instructors: Larry Williams - Artist, Metal sculptor, Dr. Ellen M. Bishop - Advisor, OPLI, Dr. James Martin - Paleontologist, Mrs. Bonnie Tolton - 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Teacher, Tracy Hubschmitt - Advisor/Educator, OPLI. ■ Submitted by Dan Cannon 6/24/25

2025 Mitchell School Reunion

The Mitchell School Reunion was held Saturday, June 28, at Ochoco Park in Prineville, Oregon. Fifty or so folks enjoyed fellowship and a fried chicken, pulled pork lunch. Clarence Jones once again did a masterful job as M.C. He honored the 6 souls who had passed the last year: Terry Schoff, Merl Helms, Dennis and Chuck McKinnon, Joe Fitzgerald, and Harry Smith. Dave & Jean Congelian handled the fundraising auction coming from Oklahoma. Keith Pierce won the traveling the farthest from Arizona. Jane and Samuel Wolters won the oldest at 93. Dave Ganosmith won the first-timer award. Dave grew up in Twickenham. He was joined by classmates Pat Gratton from Santa Rosa and Bob Cole of Redmond.

I noticed more grandchildren and great-grandchildren in attendance, even of people who had passed.

I addressed the changes that are happening in the Mitchell area and other serious B.S. It will be a wait-and-see if a reunion will be planned for next year.

Dan Cannon 6/28/25

Laughter

"The Not-So-Empty Nest"

An elderly man in Phoenix calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough." "Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams. "We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old man says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her," and he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "They're not getting divorced if I have anything to do about it," she shouts, "I'll take care of this."

She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife and says, "Okay, they're coming for Thanksgiving... now what do we tell them for Christmas?"

LoveThisPic.com

Unforgettable Folks: The Legends Next Door

In this series, I've introduced you to several interesting folks I've been fortunate enough to know. These individuals, full of wisdom and personality, left an impression on me that hasn't faded with time. They weren't scholars in the traditional sense, but their intelligence was undeniable, shaped by experience, resilience, and an innate understanding of people and the world around them. Meet Otto.

OTTO

Otto Silvey was one of the fellows that followed logging from Arkansas to Oregon. Late in the 1930s and early 1940s saw an exodus of folks out of Arkansas and Oklahoma lured to the timber of Oregon. Otto was a timber faller. Started with a saw called a misery whip, which morphed into a saw with a motor on it. Year by year, the power saws were improved and lightened, but it was still a hard job.

Otto, like all loggers, worked hard but played even harder, which usually included spirits, the liquid kind! Otto went to work early in life and was one of the smartest men that didn't know how to read or write that I ever met. He knew life and was a philosopher sort of speak. He was reluctantly moving to Prineville, and his outlook on it was: he was likely to get a divorce, start drinking Black Velvet whiskey, and a sure bet someone was going to steal something from him. Prineville had the highest divorce rate in the state, consumed the most Black Velvet in the state, and had the highest theft rate in the state. He then added drinking Black Velvet whiskey "would make you hang your hat where there weren't no nails." It was probably best Otto didn't have much education. It would be a dangerous weapon in his hands.

A large group of Mitchellites went elk hunting up Buck Point one November. A large storm system moved in and dropped three feet of snow on their camp. Four days passed, and they were still stuck. On the fifth day, the rescue party bulldozed a road into them. Otto ran up to the party screaming, "Thank God you saved us, we ran out of whiskey this morning!"

When someone bought a new car, it started a domino effect, and everyone bought a new car. A group of men were gathered discussing this very thing one morning. Otto, nursing a bad hangover, stated that "if he lived, that old brown 1952 Ford would see him through." Two weeks later, his son Tom totaled that old brown Ford at Spears

Meadow!

Living in Mitchell, the social club was the Pastime Tavern, which served spirits, and where overindulging disagreements happened. Fights occurred, and it seems a sure way to show defeat was one party biting off part of the opponent's ear. It just so happens that Otto had two son-in-laws with partial ears. He boastfully bragged about having "two gouache-eared son-in-laws" Loop McPhlettrige and Claude Powell!!

Otto years tomahawked him, he had to retire, so he became a gopher for Tom's logging company. Late one afternoon, while returning from a gopher trip, he turned too late and ended up under the westside bridge entering Mitchell. Tom's brand-new Oldsmobile sustained severe damage to the undercarriage. Black Velvet and Otto evened the score for totaling his old brown Ford.■

Dan Cannon

03/19/25



Vintage AD 1944

Remembering Marian Cannon Humphreys

The biggest share of local folks don't know Marian Cannon Humphreys, who was born in Mitchell in 1921. You were invited into her life by reading her book *My Story of the Great Depression*, published in Dajuana Dodd's Mitchell Sentinel. Marian passed away this month after seeing her 103rd birthday. A memorial will be held in September on what would have been her 104th birthday. Marian was born on Mountain Creek on September 27, 1921, and passed away on June 17, 2025.

Dan Cannon

6/28/2025

On Being 103 years old:

She was often asked what accounted for her long life. She had several answers, depending on her current whim:

- ___ good doctors
- ___ she didn't drink or smoke
- ___ bone broth every morning
- ___ eating healthy food
- ___ mean-ness
- ___ making people laugh

She was fun to the last – calling Daniel, the foster-house manager, “The rat” when he insisted she take her meds.

Mom Stories - The Compliments game:

She had a funny mom-game called compliments: *I'll tell you a compliment I heard about you if you tell me one you heard about me.* Here's an example: Marian: “Grandma says you have pretty hair”.

Helen: “Gretta Lee says you gave her a birthday party and invited all the girls in her class.”

Putting up with pets:

She was so-so about living with pets, but let everyone in the house have their own pet. She wouldn't attend to the animals' grosser needs, but she would feed them. Ironically, although she was allergic to their hair, dogs and cats loved her. They would try to get in her lap, and she would shoo them away. It was a game that kept them all busy.

Little Boys loved her:

She was meant to be a teacher of little boys, and she found her calling. They followed her around like puppies.

But she was the alpha in her classroom. She had a special shoulder grip that made naughty people come to attention and act right. Maybe that is why the little guys were such Mrs. Humphreys fans: there was not a question about who was the leader of the pack.

Mrs H would put her class on the afternoon bus, and in a little while, they would come streaming back to school on their bikes to help her clean the blackboard and to talk her ear off.

A hard, hard worker

She started teaching when she was 17, and she taught off and on for 40 years, interspersed with co-owning a tiny grocery store in Dayville, Oregon, being her mother-in-law's chauffeur, and being the jack-of-all-trades to help back up her wild-man husband.

Doctor Mom

She had borrowed cures from her mother and her mother-in-law. For example, if a person had an earache, Marian would light up the rare cigarette and blow warm smoke in the aching ear. It didn't cure the earache, but it was very soothing. “You'll feel better tomorrow” was also part of the blessing.

Her cure for stomach aches of any origin was buttered toast and milk tea with canned peaches on the side.

The artistic side

Marian used her spare time to be creative and to be with creative people, including her many artistic relatives and friends. She did it to refresh herself but also to socialize with like-minded people. And of course, to share gossip. She always learned something about different lifestyles while sitting in a weekly quilting circle or watercolor class. She also experimented with colored pencils, embroidery, mosaic, drawing, and flower gardening.

Unfortunately, that artistic talent didn't extend to cooking unless you count rice-and-raisins, sheepherder beans, and carrot salad. Oh, and blackberries on biscuit rolls with a whipped cream topping.

– Submitted by Marian's daughter –

EARL SNELL MEMORIAL PARK

Arlington SHOW N SHINE JULY 26, 2025

\$10
PER CAR



SCAN ME

REGISTER A CAR



SCAN ME

VENDOR SIGNUP

REGISTRATION 8 TO 11 AM
JUDGING AT 12 PM
AWARDS AT 2:30 PM
**PLUS FOOD, FRIENDS, FAMILY
& FUN TIMES ON THE RIVER!**

**WITH LOCAL VENDOR MARKET, HULA HOOP CONTEST,
CORNHOLE GAMES, DUCK RACES, AND MUCH MORE!**

www.oregonfrontierchamber.com



Community Advertisement

— ARLINGTON, OREGON —

Arlington Vendors Market

9AM TO 2PM

APRIL THROUGH OCTOBER

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
AT THE MALL PARKING LOT

Vendors
Wanted!

\$10 PER SPOT



SCAN ME

Booth fee
waived for
Chamber
Members!

APRIL 12

MAY 10

JUNE 14

JULY 12

AUG 9

SEPT 13

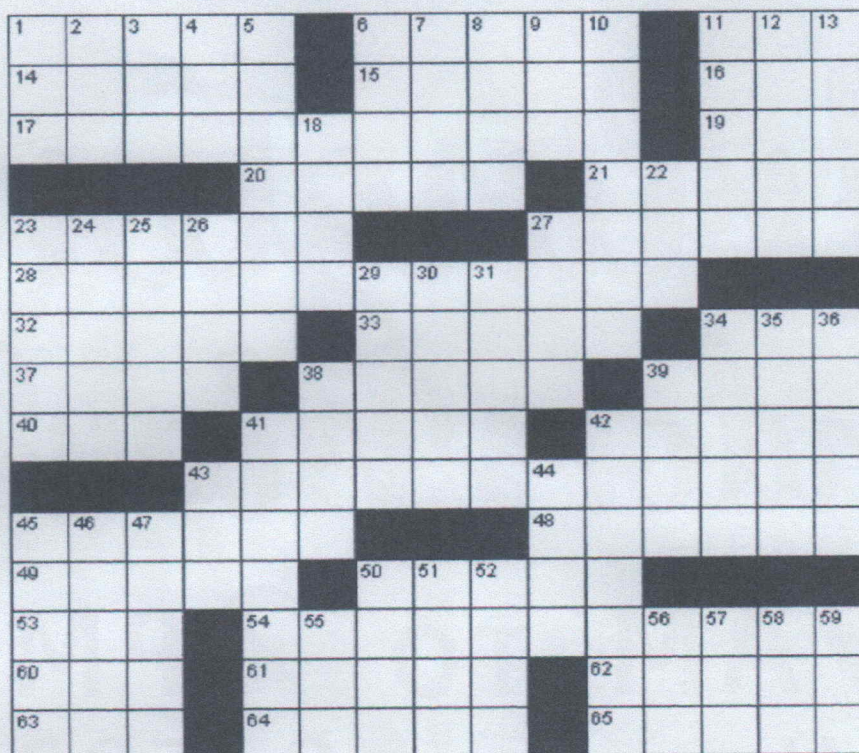
OCT 11

WWW.OREGONFRONTIERCHAMBER.COM



Community Advertisement

Crossword no.33



© PDFcrosswords.com

ACROSS

1. Concepts
6. Worries excessively
11. Gross National Product
14. A ballroom dance
15. Half-diameters
16. French for "Street"
17. Formal approval
19. Peculiar
20. Not dirty
21. Genus of hemlock spruce
23. Chinese cinnamon
27. Disperse
28. Inopportune
32. A stringed instrument
33. Anagram of "Goner"
34. Feline
37. Serf
38. A perfume from flowers
39. Offspring of a male donkey and a female horse
40. T
41. Luster
42. Actor Clark _____
43. Direction of diverse efforts
45. Careless
48. Constructs
49. A nocturnal mammal of southeast

Asia

50. Wampum
53. Appropriate
54. The quality of having physical skills
60. V
61. Hangman's knot
62. Feel
63. Old age (archaic)
64. A keyboard instrument
65. Perfected or sharpened

DOWN

1. Frozen water
2. Put on clothes
3. Finish
4. In the past
5. A genus of bacteria found in organic fluids
6. Without charge
7. Avatar of Vishnu
8. Biblical garden
9. Can
10. Maintaining a seated position
11. Team
12. A slight push or prod
13. Foot lever
18. An Eastern European people
22. Supersonic transport
23. A catlike mammal
24. A plant that produces licorice-flavored seeds
25. A small biscuit
26. Underside of footwear
27. Bambi was one
29. Go inside
30. Renowned
31. Pertaining to modern day Persia
34. Having 3 dimensions
35. Assign or give out
36. Adolescents
38. Hello from a ship
39. Spouse
41. Female singing range
42. Something added for

decoration

43. Consumer Price Index
44. Tidy
45. Musical notation grid
46. The continuation of a coat collar
47. Chose
50. Push or jostle
51. Actress _____ Lanchester
52. Suppose (archaic)
55. A prominent rock
56. Chief Executive Officer
57. Hotel
58. South southeast
59. Master of Education (abbrev.)

The Crossword Puzzle Solution can be found on page 15

SEVENTH ANNUAL
Prairie City
FIBER FEST



Workshops
Friday,
Saturday
& Sunday
July 25-27

Fleeces, Natural Fibers & Equipment,
Demonstrations & Handcrafted Items

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
July 26 & 27, 2025

Prairie City, Eastern Oregon



www.PrairieCityFiberFest.com





JOIN US FOR BINGO NIGHT!

The City of Mitchell is hosting Bingo Night!
Here's the details.....

- When** → **The Last Friday each Month**
Where → **108 Nelson Ave, Community Hall**
What Time → **Games start at 6:00pm**
Cost →
 x1 Card - \$4.00
 x2 Cards - \$8.00
 x3 Cards - \$12.00
 x4 Cards - \$15.00



Blackout - Additional \$3.00/person
Additional Blackout Cards - \$0.50 each

Prizes: \$10.00/Bingo/Round for 1 winner

\$5.00/Bingo/Round for 2 winners

Blackout Pot will depend on the number of players and if the
Blackout Round was won during the previous game(s).

Blackout must be achieved in 60 numbers called to win.



- Games may be cancelled at any time.
- Games may not be held during the months there is a conflicting Holiday.
- Games played are part of a Not for Profit Organization.



MITCHELL, OREGON

Painted Hills FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30, 2025

HALF-MARATHON 10K AND 5K RUN

ENTERTAINMENT & LIVE MUSIC!

WITH PERFORMANCES BY DAN ROBINSON, BUFFALO KIN,
MEDUSAHEAD, ROBERT CANNON, BETTY & THE BARRISTERS
AND JAMES LAWRENCE ANDREWS, WITH STREET DANCE!

QUILT SHOW FROM 10 TO 4 FOOD, VENDORS, PARADE!

TRADITIONAL MEXICAN DANCES WATER TROUGH RACES
PIE AUCTION KID GAMES, ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT!

SPONSORED BY WHEELER COUNTY COMMUNITIES – A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT
WWW.MITCHELLOREGON.US/EVENTS WWW.PAINTEDHILLSHALF.COM



Community Advertisement

Central Oregon Daily News, Bend, Oregon - Jun 11, 2025

'He was a Sisters bull': The story of Red Rock, the Hall of Fame rodeo bull

Allen Schauffler

In honor of the opening of the Sisters Rodeo, Central Oregon Daily is re-presenting this story from 2022 about hall of fame bull Red Rock and his connection to Central Oregon.



Photo by Sue Rosoff

SISTERS, Ore. -- Plenty has happened at the Sisters Rodeo over the last 82 years, but maybe the biggest single event was the day the late, legendary bull rider Lane Frost rode Red Rock.

Or did he? There's some lingering controversy.

Sisters Rodeo President Curt Kallberg took us into the new "Red Rock Corral" to tell the story.

It's named for Red Rock, of course. 1,750 pounds of Brahman-Hereford mix. A Hall of Famer. Red Rock came out of the chute 309 times. "Nobody could ever ride him," Curt said. He was a national rodeo star and a local legend. "He was a Sisters bull. He lived a big part of his life here. He was owned by a Sisters stock contractor."

Born out east in Mitchell, Oregon, he was orphaned and raised by dairy cows. "He was two years old when he was purchased out of the Madras livestock auction," Curt said. "And he was named after a butte there. A big, red, cinder butte," Curt said, adding that one of the owners didn't really want to name him Red Rock. "His hip number was 007, but he was a secret agent without a doubt." An agent with a license to buck. He retired, undefeated, in 1987. "And you talk to the bull riders who rode him at that time -- Charlie Sampson, world champions -- one right after another said they never been thrown to the ground so hard," Curt said.

He was also a pussy cat when he didn't have a cowboy on his back -- and a bit of a show-off. "You could put a young kid on his back he would just stand there. He liked that kind of attention," Curt said. "When he would buck off a cowboy, he would mainly often just circle the arena like "pretty good, huh, folks?"

After he retired, promoters had an idea: Pair Red Rock with young stud bull riding champion Lane Frost and take the show on the road. It was dubbed the Battle of the Champions. "That would be the world champion bullrider against the great Red Rock, that was retired undefeated. So they decided to put a seven-event schedule together and buck him seven more times," Curt said. One of the stops was, of course, the Sisters Rodeo. Curt was there.

"It was like a heavyweight fight," Curt said. "They say he rode him eight seconds in Sisters. Some people said it was close. He was coming off at eight, but they did score him. And they said if (Red Rock) hadn't been hauled eight hours in a trailer from Livermore, California, (Lane) never would have ridden him."

The two champs were both inducted into the PRCA Hall of Fame and were actually pals outside of the arena. And they made for a great box office team. Their battle was a key part in the 1994 biopic "Eight Seconds" with Luke Perry starring as Lane Frost. Frost died a year after his 4-3 series win over Red Rock. He was killed while riding at a rodeo in Cheyenne, Wyoming. At Frost's memorial during the national rodeo finals that year, they brought back Red Rock to, in a way, pay his respects.

Toney Ryno asked the question, "The most famous bucking bull of all time is from Mitchell, apparently...who raised it?"

Then she found the answer: "Mystery solved—he is from the Bond/Lindquist 007 herd way back when!"

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT: Mitchell School District #55 will be hiring an instructional aide position for the 25-26 school year. Contact Janell Francisco @ (541)462-3311

EMPLOYMENT: Mitchell Site Coordinator, Wheeler County Community School, Spray, Oregon, Contact Debbie Bunch @ (541)420-4479

Fossil Food Pantry Distribution, Tuesday, July 22nd, 9 am - 12 noon - If anyone needs food, please call or text Dawn Garcia (310)486-2397
We served 80 families last month!

Senior Meal in Mitchell, LAST FRIDAY of each month @ Noon @ Mitchell Community Hall
108 Nelson Avenue, Mitchell, Oregon
60 and over - \$5.00 59 and under -\$6.00
ALL are invited! Please join us!

Mitchell City Council - Meets every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Hall.
The Public is encouraged to attend!

Mitchell BINGO - Friday, JULY 25th
6 pm @ Mitchell Community Hall, 108 Nelson Ave.
- always the Last Friday of the Month -

Place your community announcement here - for FREE!

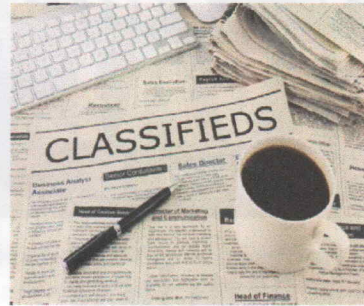
Thank You for Your Support!
The Mitchell Sentinel is a not-for-profit publication, and your donations are greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to Mitchell Sentinel. Mail to: Mitchell Sentinel, PO Box 312, Mitchell, OR 97750
The Mitchell Sentinel is published on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. For more information, please contact: Dajuana Dodd, Editor & Publisher
(541) 462-3532 or (541) 788-7042

news@mitschellsentinel.com

Advertising: Classified ADS and Community Advertisements are free. For business AD rates, call Dajuana or visit MitchellSentinel.com/advertise
Call Dajuana at (541)462-3532 or text AD to Dajuana at (541)788-7042 or Mail AD to: Mitchell Sentinel, PO BOX 312, Mitchell, OR 97750

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified ADS are **FREE!**



FOR SALE:

Oak Table with 2 large leaves and 6 chairs. Seats 10-12 easily. Paid \$1,200 brand new, only asking \$500. Contact Betty Melvin @ (541)475-7586 or Judy Boehlke @ (541)462-3000



FOR SALE:

2013 Polaris Sportsman 400 ATV. 68 hours, winch, 4WD, ranch use, new battery. \$3,500.00
Call Doug or Robin Lynn Anderson at (541)462-3164

REAL ESTATE - MITCHELL, OR

FOR SALE: 126 Nelson Ave., Mitchell, OR - 714 sqft, 2 beds, 1 bath, charming front porch, 4,791.6 Sq Ft Lot



\$112,000

Listed by: Crook County Properties LLC (541)447-3020

Solution

I	D	E	A	S		F	R	E	T	S		G	N	P
C	O	N	G	A		R	A	D	I	I		R	U	E
E	N	D	O	R	S	E	M	E	N	T		O	D	D
				C	L	E	A	N		T	S	U	G	A
C	A	S	S	I	A					D	I	S	P	E
I	N	C	O	N	V	E	N	I	E	N	T			
V	I	O	L	A		N	O	R	E	G		C	A	T
E	S	N	E		A	T	T	A	R		M	U	L	E
T	E	E		S	H	E	E	N		G	A	B	L	E
				C	O	O	R	D	I	N	A	T	I	O
S	L	O	P	P	Y					E	R	E	C	T
T	A	P	I	R		S	E	W	A	N				
A	P	T		A	T	H	L	E	T	I	C	I	S	M
V	E	E		N	O	O	S	E		S	E	N	S	E
E	L	D		O	R	G	A	N		H	O	N	E	D

MITCHELL, OREGON

Painted Hills FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30, 2025



**Mitchell
Senior Meal**
Prepared by
Chef Sharon

@Mitchell Community Hall
Last Friday of every Month
Dinner Bell rings at Noon

JULY 25th	Roast Beef, Mac & Cheese, Fruit, Dessert
----------------------	---

60 and over - \$5.00 🍰 59 and under - \$6.00

All are welcome! Please join us!



**MITCHELL
PRAISE**

300 US 26,
Mitchell, Oregon

Praise focuses on simple gatherings
as a community in the quiet
town of Mitchell, Oregon.

We meet on Sundays at 11:00 AM
and share lunch directly after service.

Come as you are. All are welcome.

If you can't make it on Sunday,
join us on YouTube
www.youtube.com/@PraiseMitchell

Community Advertisement

*****ECRWSS****

Local
Postal Customer

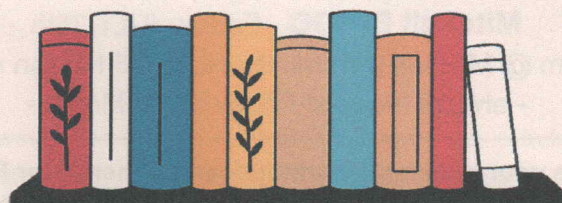
PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

MITCHELL SCHOOL-COMMUNITY

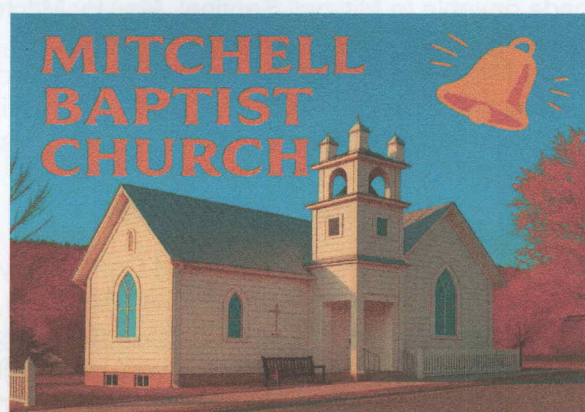
LIBRARY
DAY IS
TUESDAY

10:00 - 12:00 🦉

STARTING JUNE 17TH



Community Advertisement



**MITCHELL
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

209 SE High St. Mitchell, OR 97750
(541) 462-3914

Services at 10:00 & 11:00am Sundays
- Fellowship dinner following

Serving Mitchell with Bible truths for those
who have eyes to see, ears to hear, and
hearts to accept.

Listen for the BELL

Community Advertisement