

# Mitchell Sentinel

## Fearless, Fair and Free

Mitchell, Wheeler County, Oregon, Wednesday, August 20, 2025, Issue #34

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Mitchell BINGO  
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@Mitchell  
Community Hall

## Governor Kotek Calls for Special Session to Address Transportation System Emergency Mitchell ODOT Shop to Close; State Plans Special Session to Address Crisis

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is set to permanently close its Mitchell maintenance shop, eliminating the town's remaining four road crew positions. Once staffed with seven full-time employees, Mitchell will now have no local ODOT presence, raising concerns over road safety, especially with winter approaching. Rural communities like Mitchell, Spray, and Condon—already facing hazardous driving conditions, rockslides, and limited emergency services—are expected to feel the brunt of the cuts.

The closures are part of a statewide cost-saving effort to address ODOT's projected \$354 million shortfall in the 2025–2027 budget. Local officials, including Wheeler County Judge Lynn Morley, say they were given no advance notice of the decision. Field crews have warned the impact could be "catastrophic" for public safety and commerce.

In response to the crisis, Governor Tina Kotek has called a special legislative session for August 29, proposing a \$650 million revenue package to restore staffing and services. The plan includes a 6-cent gas tax increase, higher vehicle registration and title fees, expanded mileage-based fees for electric and hybrid vehicles, and a doubling of the public transit payroll tax. It also outlines governance reforms and repeals tolling authority in the Portland metro area.

While many local governments support the proposal, some lawmakers oppose the tax increases, favoring the use of existing emergency funds. Without legislative action, hundreds of ODOT jobs will be lost statewide by mid-September, leaving rural road maintenance and emergency response further strained. ■ [Sources: Kotek July Press Release, Ashland News, OPB] For more information or to share your concerns, contact Representative Greg Smith at (541) 993-5236 or [rep.gregsmith@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.gregsmith@oregonlegislature.gov).



Stock photo

### By Taxpayers Association of Oregon [OregonWatchdog.com](http://OregonWatchdog.com)

Kotek has put forward a plan to enhance funding by suggesting an increase of 6 cents to the state's gas tax. Additionally, the proposal includes a \$42 hike in vehicle registration fees, a \$139 rise in title fees, and a new \$30 surcharge specifically for electric vehicles. The 6-cent gas tax and DMV hike plan will be up for debate on the one-day Oregon Special Legislative Session August 29. Remember, the gas tax was increased by 5% just last year. Remember, Oregon's gas tax is among the top 10 most expensive.



## Happy Golden Anniversary!

August 16, 2025, will bring in 50 years of marriage for Randy and Duana Charapata. Meeting as girl/boy next door, after Randy's family moved from Wisconsin to Molalla, Oregon. The high school sweethearts married and began a life together, seeking ventures and adventures. They sold a thriving supermarket/shopping center concern and their farm, packed up their young son Eric, and with the bulk of Randy's family, moved to a ranch in Eastern Oregon, 15 miles from Mitchell, Oregon. Two years later, a daughter, Alicia, was born.

The next 45 years saw the feast and famine of ranch life, culminating in an enlarged extended family, a daughter and son-in-law, and 3 grandchildren, achieving a half-century marriage, with a half-century ranch hot on its heels.



Duana and Randy Charapata

August 16, 1975

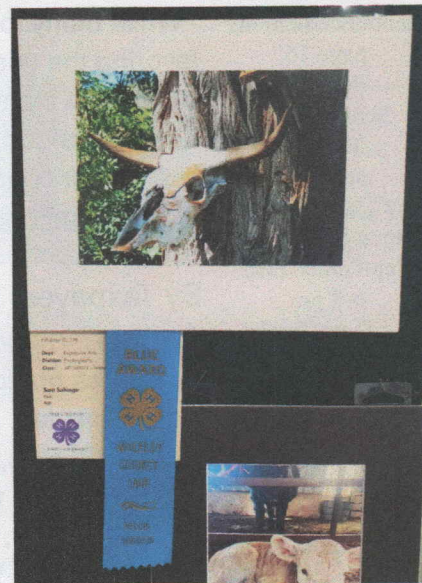
## Mitchell's Sam Salvage has Three Items going to the State Fair!

Sam won 2 Grand Champion ribbons and four Special Awards at the 2025 Wheeler County Fair, August 7-9 in Fossil, Oregon.

Grand Champion Ribbons were awarded to Sam in the Food and Distribution Division and the Photography Division.

Three of Sam's entries were selected for State Fair!

**Congratulations, Sam!**





# Mitchell Ambulance Chat

August 2025

Hello everyone and welcome to this month's edition of the Mitchell Ambulance Chat!! My intent has been to keep you all informed about our operations and to pass along tips for you to help us if you need us. We've talked about keeping a medication list in a conspicuous place for us, the medications you are prescribed give us an insight as to what your current health issues are, and give us clues as to what you may be experiencing at the moment. Please have your list made and keep it nearby for us to find, should you not be able to tell us where it is.

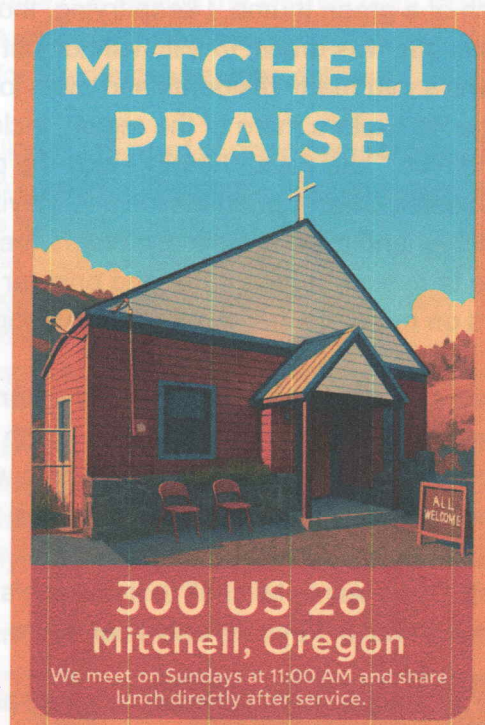
Another subject we've discussed previously is having your wishes honored through the use of a DNR or POLST form. Please have these available in a conspicuous place, such as on the refrigerator, your table, or on your nightstand. You are in charge of your care, and we want to honor your wishes accordingly, if you are unable to speak and a valid DNR or POLST form can't be located, then we are required by law to start resuscitation efforts, so please make sure those documents can be easily found.

We talked previously about the questions we ask and why we ask them. The questions are an assessment tool to help us diagnose what's going on with you and are standardized questions used throughout the emergency care industry nationwide. The answers to these questions, along with a physical assessment of you, help us to determine what the nature of your illness is and make care decisions based upon your needs. We can bring in advanced care for you should you need it by calling for a helicopter transport or by arranging an intercept along the route to the hospital with Crook County Fire and Rescue. They are staffed with paramedics who can perform many more procedures than we can including pain management medications. We never hesitate to call for advanced care if needed, we will

always put our patients wants and needs first!!

I've stated this many times but it cannot be said enough, all of us at Mitchell Ambulance are volunteers. We don't receive any monies for what we do for all of you. We're available 24/7 365 days a year to help you should you need us. We see things most people couldn't cope with at times but we also get to be a part of some wonderful success stories. All of us care deeply about all of you or we wouldn't do this!! Have a safe month everyone and thank you for your continued support!!

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



Community Advertisement

**ONTIVEROS  
TACOS**

**NOW OPEN**

**LOCATED ON HWY 26  
NEXT DOOR TO  
CANNON'S TIRE STORE  
& ROUTE 26 ESPRESSO**

Community Advertisement



## Mitchell Welcomes New Postmaster, Cheri Hammond

By Dajuana Dodd, Editor – The Mitchell Sentinel

The town of Mitchell has a new friendly face at the post office — Cheri Hammond, who officially stepped into her role as Postmaster in mid-July. With over two decades of postal service experience and deep Central Oregon roots, Cheri brings both dedication and a personal touch to her work.

Cheri grew up in Prineville from 1977 to 1991, where her early jobs included delivering papers for the Central Oregonian, washing dishes at the Coffee Pot Restaurant, and working at Pietro's Pizza. After moving to Ashland in 1991 to attend college, she settled in Medford, working in early childhood education until 2004, when she joined the U.S. Postal Service. This September will mark her 21st year with the USPS. Over the years, she's worked in nearly every area of postal operations — from clerk to maintenance mechanic, electronic technician, and area maintenance technician — giving her a deep understanding of how the postal system works behind the scenes.

Outside of work, Cheri enjoys life with her husband Mike of 14 years, their two grown children, Monica and Garin, and a lively household of seven small dogs, five ducks, and 20 chickens. "I try to grow things," she laughs, "but I don't have much of a green thumb. I keep trying, though!"

Cheri says she was drawn to Mitchell not just by the job opportunity, but by her ties to the area and its people. Since starting, she's met many residents and even joined a cornhole tournament in Spray at her cousin's house on the river. She's eager to explore more of the region, including the Painted Hills and local hiking trails. "Everyone has been so helpful and nice," she says. "I really enjoy the people and the town, it really is beautiful here."

As Postmaster, Cheri's priorities include staying engaged with the community, maintaining and improving the post office building, and making sure customers feel valued. She's already ordered new LED lights for the outside of the post office to make the area safer and brighter at night. "I want to get back to supporting my staff and helping the customers on more of a personal level so people feel important and that they know they make a difference," she explains.

Cheri also encourages residents to understand and speak up about issues affecting the postal service. She notes that recent changes in mail processing — with all mail now going through Portland before returning for local delivery — have caused noticeable delays. "The best way to support your post office is to use the bulletin board, support your local community, and write your congressman when big changes impact your livelihood or that of your neighbors," she says.

Above all, Cheri wants Mitchell to know she's here for the long haul. "I'm not using this job as a stepping stone," she emphasizes. "I have 10 years until I can retire, and I would love this small town to be my last job."

From all of us in the Mitchell community and the Mitchell *Sentinel* — welcome, Cheri! We're glad you're here.

### At the River by Dan Cannon 07/17/2025

July 13, 2025, the Mitchell Baptist Church gathered at the river, the John Day, in fact.

Seven souls made the commitment to be reborn and to let Jesus be a part of their act.

Chip, being the youngest at 8, and Loretta, the oldest, being 88, Then Alex, Robert, Harley, Justin, and Carlee shared the rebirth and their faith.

After the service, everyone partook of the mini feast.

For it also takes food to soothe the soul and tame the savage beast.

As we ponder that day, and if we took a poll,  
How many folks would say it's ok for 7 Baptists to get baptised  
in a place called the Priest Hole?



photo by sue page

Photo by Sue Page



## Big fun in a small town!

### PAINTED HILLS FESTIVAL-SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2025

#### The Painted Hills Festival kicks off Labor Day Weekend every year in Mitchell, OR

By Toney Ryno

Now in its 29th year, the annual Painted Hills Festival in Mitchell, Oregon, boasts two entertainment stages, a half-marathon, 10K and 5K fun-runs, a grand parade, quilt show, vendors, food, old-fashioned kids' games, and water trough races. New to the music line-up this year is Wheeler County's first-ever soul band, Medusahead, which is a large ensemble that surprisingly includes four ladies singing backup, an organist, an accomplished piano player, a trumpeter, and more! For the kids and young at heart, there will also be a 20-year veteran balloon entertainer who creates all kinds of characters out of balloons.

The festival, hosted in downtown Mitchell (48 miles east of Prineville on Highway 26), celebrates the majestic beauty of one of Oregon's 7 wonders, the Painted Hills National Monument, and always takes place on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend.

The day begins at 7:00 AM with the Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K run shuttle bus leaving the Mitchell Gym. Half-marathon runners begin their journey over rugged back country roads (with several water support stations) at 7:30 AM. 10K and 5K runs stagger start as the shuttle bus moves closer to town. Registration for the run can be done online at [paintedhillshalf.com](http://paintedhillshalf.com)

Festivities, music, and fun start as runners make their way to the finish line in the heart of downtown Mitchell. Two performance stages in town – one at the City Park and one at Tiger Town Brewing Company – host entertainment including seven musical acts, traditional Mexican dancers, the annual pie auction, and more.

The Grand Parade begins at 11:30 AM with Grand Marshals Carl & Irene Naas leading the way. Mitchell High School's golden grad classes of 1975 will also return home with a float in the parade as well. You can count on horses, classic cars, folks in costume, kids on bikes, motorcycles, CANDY (lots of it), and other creative entries. A quilt show will fill the upstairs of the Mitchell Community Center on Nelson Street, boasting an impressive collection that this community can certainly be proud of.

In the evening, the road is cleared for the annual Water Trough Races, an unorthodox gravity-powered race where contestants must create a rolling water trough with steering and brakes, for a low-speed race down Main Street. Swing dancing lessons are offered just before a street dance in front of Tiger Town Brewing for all to enjoy.

Schedule of performances, events, and other details about the free, family-friendly Painted Hills Festival will be found by visiting our Facebook page or checking local bulletin boards. ■

## Mitchell Market Grand Opening! August 30th - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Mitchell Market will be open every Saturday from Labor Day Weekend through October 25th. The Market was created by the Painted Hills Cottages, and it brings their colorful artistry down the hillside and on to Main Street!

Conveniently located across from the City Park.

There are currently 10 spaces available for \$10.00 each per week.

Please contact Barbara at (541)462-3192 or at  
[paintedhillscottages@gmail.com](mailto:paintedhillscottages@gmail.com)

So please come and bring the Market to life by bringing your art, handicrafts, photography, and homemade goodies, stained glass, homegrown produce, or whatever you think would be successful with tourists and our local community.

To Mitchell's local community: please enjoy the new addition, like I do!



*Greetings,  
Barbara Jacobi*



## 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.

### LES SCHWAB

I first met Les Schwab in 1954 when I was 11 years old. Les had been in the tire business for 2 years. People were starting to notice and respect his business sense. I had to respect his speed. He was pretty fleet at foot. After squirting him with the water hose, he ran me down, dragged me back, then placed the hose down my pants and soaked me. Our association was uphill from there, in all aspects of our lives.

My father started selling tires in 1947 when he bought Bill Taylor's service station. He made most purchases from the Goodyear store in Bend. Les switched the Goodyear lover in 1954. At the time, the small Mitchell store doubled his purchasing power. Cannon's drew off his Prineville store's inventory and soon were direct shipped from General and other suppliers.

Les would travel to Mitchell once a week to deliver tires to Hudspeth's Bridge Creek Mill, mostly truck retreads. His timing was about noon, so he could take advantage of my mother's home cooking and talk business between bites.

Les had borrowed money from his brother-in-law Fred Hudspeth to start on, so that secured the Hudspeth account. (Fred wanted to be paid back). Gib Folston, who was truck boss for Hudspeths, said he was responsible for Les's success, the reason being every other retread that failed he rolled into the burner pit. Gib was also known for his B.S.

Les was looking for signage, a brand mark; he found it in Mitchell in about 1958. Clarence Jones had opened his new service station after washing out in the flood of 1956. Clarence's new pole sign had the Chevron on one end and his name across from it. Les noticed that all Chevrons had the same sign with the local owner's name on it. This became the birth of the national icon, the Les Schwab pole sign.

The more successful Les got, the more slave to the

business he became. The government forced him to get big; lawyers were needed for liability, regulations, laws, regular business practices, and money made in stores had to be reinvested in new stores just to keep the government from gleaning it.

Les Schwab surrounded himself with smart people, then he shared the profits with them, from the top to the bottom of the company. The axiom being: the harder you worked, the more you made. When Les arrived to the point of financial security for his family, he turned his effort to see how many millionaires he could make within the company.

My mother, wife, and young son were having lunch at the Cinnabar Restaurant when Les and his staff came in. My son spied him and yelled out Grandpa! To which Les said, "No son! I know your Grandpa, and I am not that fat!"

The Goodyear lover (my dad) was in Prineville to get a haircut. He got a parking ticket, but due to the windshield wipers being hidden, he did not find the ticket. A few weeks later, he gets a letter from the Prineville Police Department. The ticket was quite a bit larger than the original due to tardiness. Dad paid the ticket, then put a sign in the store window: Slugs made here for Prineville Parking Meters. Les comes by on his monthly trip to John Day - wants to know about said sign. By now, he does not want adverse publicity for his brand. He tells Cannon he will pay the ticket if he takes down the sign and refrains from making any more meter slugs. Cannon denies his offer, states there is a principle involved here, and he is only going to make enough slugs to cover the ticket. I might add that no slugs were ever made, but Les never knew.

Cannon's Tire sent a truck tire in for adjustment, the tread had peeled off, it came back non-adjustable. Dad immediately placed the tire out front with a neatly printed sign, "Les Schwab's Finest Cold Tar and Burlap". Dad had to wait a week for Les's John Day trip. "What's the story, Cannon?" he asked. Dad filled him in. "How much is it going to cost me?" Les asked. Dad told him, and I believe that is the only out-of-pocket adjust Les ever completed.

We were in the main office, and Les was having a heated discussion with the Michelin people. Les's door was open so he could see out. Dad flipped him the bird, knowing he could not respond. Then he sends Les a note saying the gesture was not derogatory, it was his way of telling Les he was still #1 in his book!

Les and Dorothy produced two children, Harlan born in

(cont'd on page 11)



## OVER 40 YEARS IN TIGER TOWN

My sister and I started our stay in Mitchell, Oregon, in 1947 when our father purchased a service station in the Tiger Town part of town. Tiger Town earned its name by the saloons and the hell raisers that patronized them. Highway 26 ran through this area, which meant that town kids had to dodge cars, trucks, and other obstacles. The road provided a survival course for riding trikes, bikes, wagons, sleds, and, oh yes, walking too! Brakes on these said obstacles were not that good, if there was any at all. To my knowledge, my father was the only one ever injured by an auto. Bud Folston hit him with his car and dragged him a ways. My father survived; the fault did not lie with bad brakes; the fault was caused by overindulgence in alcohol by both parties!

We were not the only kids in Tiger Town. Clarence and Myrna Jones, Corky and Skeeter Ashmead, Dick, Brown, Loy & Dave Conklin, Mona, Tom, Eddie Howard, Vanda and Jim Huddleston, Margie Hobbie, Ken, Loraine, & Fred Harnden were some of the ones I remember! We played games like Kick the Can, Anti-Over, Dodge, Hide-n-Seek, Cowboy + Indians, Marbles, Baseball, and Football. Our folks were glad to have us out of the house. Around supper time, you could hear moms calling for their kids. Blanche Wilcox became famous for screaming for Freddie Burt! Her voice carried farther than the church bell!

School started, and every morning kids trudged up the street to the Boardwalk, then on to school. If kids rode to school, it was usually late home work, overslept, or they figured out how to con their folks.

There weren't many fights between the town kids in school. Mill kids were tough and they knew it, and proved it often. I remember Jim Maulvhill, who was a proponent of boxing, made us put on the gloves to settle disputes! I didn't like to put on the boxing gloves because they caused my nose to bleed. My sister, on the other hand, was a lot tougher than I, and she proved it often. Paul Lollar was the toughest in town, and Sue made him cry.

Once a year, a traveling bear show came to town. They were in wagon cages - you could feed them, but you could also wrestle them. They had all sizes, they muzzled them, and they were also declawed. My sister wrestled one every year and usually held her own. It's not every brother who can claim his sister is a bear wrestler! A Mitchell man shared beer with the one he was paired with, and before the match was over, he was begging to get out of the cage. The SPCA AND PITA people would have had a conniption today. But all in all, the bears

usually won! It was good redneck entertainment.

Needless to say, pacifist me, it was a spectator sport. I didn't have to be tough as long as my sister was around.

I saw my dad get into two fights at the station. I gained a lot more respect for him after he closed both of them out quickly! His opponents were fortified with alcohol from Tiger Town saloons. The station was burglarized numerous times, but it was minor compared to our move out on Hwy 26.

We moved to our new store in 1969. Crooks looked to our place as their own ATM. Those same crooks taught the art of crime prevention. Soon, we closed up 4 windows to channel points of entry. A skinny crook even gained entry by squeezing through a 9 x 20-inch window in the restroom. We barred it after. One perp busted the front door window. I went to Prineville and purchased a 1/4 inch plastic unbreakable one, and three days later they broke it! My dad and I caught two of them inside, one broke and ran to the window and didn't heed my order to stop. When he went through the window, I triggered the 12-gauge shotgun. The blast went high, but I think I put mortar in his shorts. He was apprehended 10 hours later. His buddy did not run, and afterwards I found out why: his coat was filled with our change, even the pennies, probably 30 pounds worth. On another occasion, I showed up with a .38 and one heck of a hangover, I braked to a stop and grabbed the pistol. It discharged, the bullet went between my feet, and now I had a headache *and* ringing ears. When I caught him coming out the door, he could tell I was crazy the way I was screaming at him! My sister was staying with our dad one weekend when we got hit. I had the perp laying face down in the dirt. I informed him I was just as scared as he was, don't even twitch, for I didn't know what I would do. I had Sue stand over him and put her .38 behind his ear. I told her when I went inside the store and she heard a noise, you pull the trigger. He started screaming, "I am alone!" many times over. Thinking back, I did a humane act by placing the perp face down - that way he could not see Sue standing over him with nothing on but her nightgown, slippers, and a .38. My mother even got in the act. While we were checking a car parked below our store, the perp ran out of the store and over the bank. Mom was on the house deck, and after a verbal warning, she cut loose with her .38. She was chambering wadcutters, and her being so short, the bullets were clipping the top rail and turning over. The poor perp could hear the bullets coming. When he was arraigned the next

(cont'd on page 11)



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](http://WWW.MITCHELLOREGON.US/EVENTS)    [WWW.PAINTEDHILLSHALF.COM](http://WWW.PAINTEDHILLSHALF.COM)



Community Advertisement





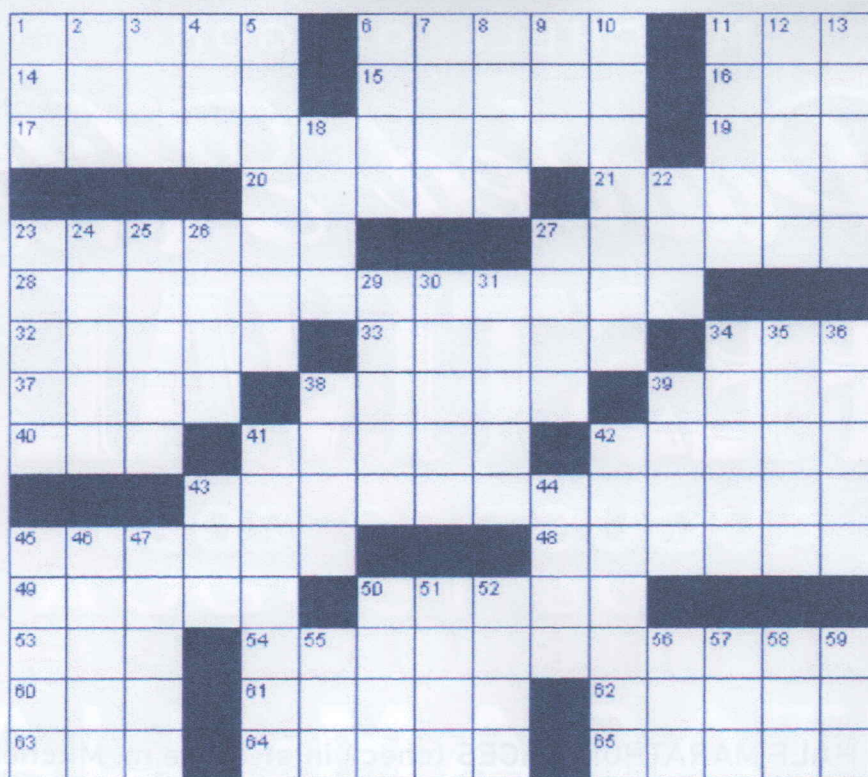
## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 7:00 a.m. 5K, 10K, & HALF MARATHON RACES (check in at 7:00 a.m. Mitchell Gym)
- 10:00 a.m. QUILT SHOW open until 4:00 p.m. (Community Hall)
- 11:00 a.m. RACE AWARDS (in the park)
- 11:30 a.m. GRAND PARADE (check in at 10:45 a.m. east end of town)
- 12:00 p.m. DAN ROBINSON (music in the park)
- 12:00 p.m. ROBERT CANNON (music at Tiger Town Stage)
- 1:00 p.m. PIE AUCTION FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER (in the park)
- 1:30 p.m. KIDS GAMES (in the park by the Bouncy House)
- 1:30 p.m. JAMES LAWRENCE ANDREWS (music in the park)
- 2:30 p.m. VARGAS FAMILY TRADITIONAL MEXICAN DANCE (in the park)
- 2:45 p.m. BUFFALO KIN (in the park)
- 3:45 BETTY & THE BARRISTERS (music on Tiger Town Stage)
- 5:00 p.m. WATER TROUGH RACES (in front of Wheeler County Trading)
- 5:30 p.m. CHAD HALLIGAN ON PIANO (music near Tiger Town)
- 6:30 p.m. MEDUSAHEAD (music on Tiger Town Stage)
- 7:30 p.m. SWING DANCING WITH EMILY (lessons on street near Tiger Town)
- 8:00 p.m. STREET DANCE (on street near Tiger Town with DJs Smokey & the Bandit)

DOOR PRIZES IN THE PARK ALL THROUGH THE DAY, GET A FREE TICKET!



# Crossword no.34



© PDFcrosswords.com

## ACROSS

1. Construct or arrange (2 words)
6. Foundation
11. Supersonic transport
14. Came up
15. Put up with something
16. Equality
17. Larva of a butterfly
19. A king of Judah
20. Personal manservant
21. Army doctor
23. Anagram of "Sifted"
27. Powerfully persuasive
28. Crossing
32. Decree
33. Defeats thoroughly
34. Shape with an axe
37. Wealthy
38. Large long-necked wading bird
39. A woman of refinement
40. Tibetan wild ox
41. Not these
42. Artist's workstand
43. Myopic
45. Protective embankment
48. Not winners
49. Freight
50. Sugary

53. 52 in Roman numerals

54. Close or similar
60. Annual General Meeting
61. A group of connected railroad cars
62. Parlor
63. Faucet
64. Classes by kinds
65. Burrowing mammals

## DOWN

1. Bag
2. Earned Run Average
3. Young child
4. Utilize
5. Corrupt morally
6. Recognizance
7. Possessing the necessary skills
8. Fine earth floating in rivers
9. Anagram of "Aid"
10. Messages from the pulpit
11. A type of shovel
12. Indian antelope
13. A parcel of land
18. Cushions
22. Comes from a chicken
23. Ardent
24. 2nd most populous country in the world
25. A length of wood
26. Technician (abbrev.)
27. Quote
29. Mistake
30. Seashore
31. Melodies
34. Hurry
35. Chieftain
36. Joins metals together by heating
38. Hack
39. Anagram of "Dash"
41. Necks
42. Self-importance

43. Screen Actors Guild
44. Holly
45. Acclaim
46. Goat-like antelope of central Eurasia
47. Bend or crease
50. Box
51. A legal court document
52. Long periods of time
55. Not amateur
56. Chinese revolutionary
57. Entirely
58. Foot digit
59. N N N N

The Crossword Puzzle Solution can be found on page 15



1940, and Margie in 1952. Both their lives were ended tragically—Harlan in 1971 in an auto accident, Margie in 2005 after battling cancer.

Cannon's needed a new air compressor, so we bought one from L.S. Midway Equipment. Harlan delivered it, hooked it up, and all it cost me was a six-pack, which I drank half of. I toured the L.S. Retread plant many times with Harlan as my guide.

I love watching the rubber extruder mixing the compounds. Harlan mixed silicone with the rubber, and it changed the color to pastel blue. He retreaded tires with it. Harlan then installed the tires on Wally Smith Lumber trucks, which ran between John Day and Prineville 24 hours a day. He would ride in the trucks and stop at Mitchell and take the temperatures of the tires, which ran 20 degrees cooler by not being black. After Harlan died, no one wanted to continue the experiment. So Les Schwab and Gibby Owens stopped the program.

I did not get to know Margie that well, but I did know her husband, Denny Denton, even before he married her. I once asked Les to adopt me. He said he already had a son-in-law! No dice!

My dad, in 1994, sent Les and Dorothy each a platinum coin. I told Dad they could afford to buy all the coins they wanted. He looked me straight in the eye and said they can't buy these two. My dad's way of saying thank you for helping to feed my family all these years.

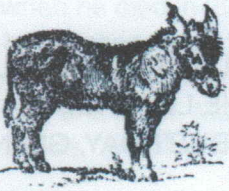
My dad started with Les in 1954. I joined in 1961, so all told, we have been selling L.S. products for 71 years.

**Dan Cannon**  
6/22/25

Leslie Bishop Schwab (October 3, 1917 – May 18, 2007) was an American businessman from Oregon. He was the founder of Les Schwab Tire Centers, a company which *Modern Tire Dealer* called "arguably the most respected independent tire store chain in the United States." A native of Oregon, he served in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II before starting his business in 1952.

**I'M OUT ON A H---- OF A TIME!**  
*in* MITCHELL

When I can't stand, tie this to my buttonhole, steal my pocketbook, wind my watch, sponge my clothes,

**KICK MY**  **AND SHIP ME HOME**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Keep This Out Of The Newspapers And Tell My wife it Was An Old Stomach Trouble

Zax 7- 28

Vintage Fun - Submitted by Dan Cannon

## OVER 40 YEARS IN TIGER TOWN

(cont'd from page 7)

day as they questioned him, he retold his story, and then he fainted because of reliving the experience. The circuit judge told us we couldn't take the law into our own hands and shoot people. Dad stated we are not going to work our butts off during the day just to let some A.H. take it during the night and do nothing! After we were publicized in the local papers that we would shoot, the burglaries stopped. That judge was wrong!

Growing up in the rough and tough (Tiger Town) part of town prepared us for the unexpected situations that crossed into our lives. So far, we have pretty much stayed out of trouble and out of jail!

**Dan Cannon**  
08/04/25

**Cold! Cold! COLD!**

**The Crosley**



**Icyball Refrigerator**  
"The Mechanical Iceman"

The new Crosley Icyball Refrigerator brings within reach of every family the comforts of mechanical refrigeration.

It keeps food cold, fresh and pure; freezes ice cubes and makes frozen desserts.

The Crosley Icyball Refrigerator operates for three cents a day.

Three cents a day to preserve your food, protect your health and allow you all the luxury of modern refrigeration. *Think of it!*

**EVERY HOME SHOULD HAVE ONE**  
Prices Reasonable Will Give Terms

**Wheeler County Trading Co.**

This AD was published in the  
Wheeler County Chronicle on August 8, 1929



## A BIG DAY for Fire Chief Raber



Humbled by the community of Mitchell coming together for my father's 60th birthday today.

It might also be a Mitchell record for the longest held secret - 5 days.

So many people came together to make this happen.

- Thank you, Ian and Lindsey, the spark that initiated the barbecue. They did so much behind the scenes, including late-night planning and travel to ensure the final touches were perfect. Decorations, cupcakes, and Ian was the last person to leave, even helping us bring things home.
- Thank you, Teresa, for lending me your van last minute to make a critical run to Bend! Helping with setup and always being so gracious!
- Thank you, Doriana, for always being so dependable when the clock hits 0—helping my mom in all the ways you do!
- Thank you, Mom (Kelly), Dad couldn't have had a better 60th birthday than with the friends and community you two have done so much to support. This happened because you brought the community together.
- Thank you, Corina and Ralph, for always being first in my contact list when I need out of a pinch.
- Thank you, Dan, for reminding us that someone is always watching, and for your incredible gift as a wordsmith.
- Thank you, Cam and Arizona, no event should go without a legendary acoustic guitarist.
- Thank you, Crystal, for the piñata, no way the party would have been that much fun without one!
- Thank you, Lonnie and Peggy, for conquering the winds and making such phenomenal burgers and dogs!
- Thank you, Brianna, for serving this town and community with so much compassion, and for keeping my dad guessing!
- Thank you, Terrill, for being the first one at the park, helping us set up the barbecue, getting chairs, and being the last to leave the park, going above and beyond to ensure our park is ready for the next person to enjoy!

Lastly, thank you for attending, bringing a dish, offering to help, helping in your own way, spreading the word, keeping the surprise, enjoying the party, and not complaining too loudly about the small plates and small napkins!

If you took pictures, please share!

Anecdote: The most common thing I've heard this past week while preparing for this was:

"Why don't we do more things like this as a community?"

Let's figure that out, and fix it! Mitchell's a much better place when we're all friends.

I hope you had the best birthday yet, Dad!

*Alex Raber*

## TOAST TO GLENN...

FOLKS IN MITCHELL GOT TOGETHER AND WE TOOK A POLL

IT WAS DECIDED THAT WE GET TOGETHER AT THE PARK AND WISH A HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO OUR TRASH TROLL.

A MAN THAT HAS CRAMMED 3 LIFETIMES INTO THOSE 60 YEARS

GLENN HAS SAMPLED MANY THING IN LIFE, FOR SOME HE GOT BOO'S BUT FOR MANY HE RECEIVED CHEERS

LET US MENTION SOME OF THE HARD LESSONS LEARNT

GLENN WAS A VOLUNTEER FIREMAN FOR FOSSIL, HE GOT THE FIRE TRUCK STUCK AND TO THE RIMS IT BURNT.

SOMETIMES WHEN WE TRY TO DO THE RIGHT THING, THEY DON'T TURN OUT THE WAY THEY SHOULD

BUT THAT DON'T MEAN YOU QUIT DOING DO GOODER THINGS FOR THE GOOD

WHETHER YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH COMPUTER, INTERNET, FIRE, TRASH, OR JUST NEED A FAVOR, ALL YOU DO IS ASK.

GLENN WILL HELP FIND A SOLUTION, HE IS ALWAYS UP TO THE TASK!

HE WILL SHARE ALL THINGS, INCLUDING LESSONS, NO MATTER HOW HE LEARNED IT.

SO HAVE A HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GLENN YOU SURE AS HECK EARNED IT!

*Dan Cannon* AUGUST 7, 2025



## Obituary for Marcy Gascon



Marcia (Marcy) Gascon, 69, of Prineville, died Saturday, July 12, at her sister's home in Prineville, after a hard battle with pulmonary fibrosis.

Marcia Marie Quant was born on December 19, 1955, in Prineville, to Shirley and Margaret Quant. She was the youngest of the four Quant children, beloved and spoiled by her parents and older siblings.

In 1977, Marcy gave birth to her oldest daughter, Darcy Lee Welker. She had her second daughter, DeAnn Marie Welker, 14 months later, in 1978.

She married her husband, Teddy Lee (Ted) Gascon, on January 29, 1994. Her daughters, Darcy and DeAnn, along with Ted's brother, served as witnesses.

She lived in Prineville most of her life, with brief moves to Mitchell, Paulina, Christmas Valley, Irrigon, Oregon, and Puyallup, Washington.

Marcy didn't know a stranger, making friends easily throughout her life, beginning in childhood. She also kept her friends all her life. At the time of her death, some of her best friends had been by her side since her earliest days growing up on Melrose Drive.

Marcy loved the outdoors, whether working in the woods with her dad, taking her daughters or grandchildren fishing or camping, or going on a drive with her husband, Teddy.

Marcy worked at many different jobs throughout her life, including at sawmills, retail stores, and the Quant Rock Shop, owned by her dad – making friends at each one. She especially loved babysitting her grandkids. She managed the Crystal Corral RV Park until her illness made it impossible to continue doing so. She made many dear friends while living and working there, and her presence is missed by her friends at the community.

Marcy was smart, friendly, and fun. She knew the song lyrics to almost any song you could think of, could beat you in trivia, and was an expert cribbage player. She was kind and loving to everyone she met, and as loyal as they come.

She loved dogs – her own, her "grand-dogs" and great-grand-dogs, her friend's dogs, and her brother's dogs that she inherited when he died in 2023.

Marcy was a constant presence at men's softball in Prineville for many years, where she served as the scorekeeper, a coach, and a fan. Many of them knew her as "Broda" or "Marcy Broda," a nickname that stuck for the rest of her life.

She was a huge fan of the Oregon State University Beavers, especially baseball. If a game was on, good luck getting her attention – especially if the Beavs were winning.

She had a blast watching the Beavers baseball team return to Omaha this year.

Marcy's pride and joy were her six grandchildren. She saw them as often as possible, and especially enjoyed the annual trips they would take to fun locations around Oregon, including the coast, the Columbia River Gorge, and Eagle Crest.

Marcy was preceded in death by her parents, Shirley and Margaret Quant; her daughter, Darcy Welker; Darcy's partner, Ryan Skellett; and her brother, Bill Quant. She is survived by her husband, Teddy Gascon; her daughter, DeAnn Welker; her sisters, Lucy Woodward and Teresa Quant; her grandchildren, Jessie Welker, Shelby Nichols, Trace Skellett, Lincoln Lewis, Inara Lewis, and Willa Lewis; her other daughter, Leigh Apperson; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and close friends.

So many of Marcy's friends were like family, and the love and support they showed during her illness meant the world to her, and to her family. She had visitors nearly every day during her illness – sometimes many in a single day. Some would visit her weekly or more, and others came from many states away to see her during her final months. She knew others who were far away were thinking of her and loving her from afar, and she appreciated that as well. Thank you for loving her so much!

A celebration of Marcy's life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, August 9, at the Prineville Elks Lodge, 151 N. Main St., in Prineville, Oregon. Please bring your happy memories of Marcy to share with those who loved her.

In lieu of flowers, you may donate to an education fund for her six grandchildren using the following link – <https://venmo.com/deann-welker> – with a note saying that it is in memory of Marcy. The donations will be distributed evenly among her grandchildren. ■

## PASS TIME

COLD DRINKS, TOBACCOS AND  
CONFECTIONS LUNCH GOODS

*Billiards and Pool-Card Tables*

Open at all hours

LEO CRAIG, Proprietor

This AD was published in the Wheeler County Chronicle on August 8, 1929



## Emergency Preparedness in Mitchell: What Every Resident Needs to Know

When disaster strikes, knowing how you'll be notified and what to do could make all the difference. Here in Mitchell, and throughout Wheeler County, emergency management is a coordinated effort between local volunteers, the County Emergency Management team, and the State of Oregon. This article provides essential information every Mitchell resident should know about our local emergency response system.

### Who Is in Charge of Emergency Management?

Wheeler County Emergency Management is responsible for preparing and coordinating responses to disasters that affect our area. The County's Emergency Management Director, Jeremiah Holmes, and Coordinator, Mitch Elliott, oversee emergency operations planning, resource coordination, and community readiness. They work closely with local volunteer fire and EMS crews, including our own Mitchell Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service. Statewide support is provided by the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM), which coordinates large-scale responses and resources when local capabilities are exceeded.

### How Will You Be Notified in an Emergency?

In the event of an emergency, notifications will be sent out through several methods:

**OR-Alert (Oregon's Statewide Emergency Notification System)** - Residents can sign up to receive emergency alerts via text message, email, or phone calls. This system is used for evacuation notices, hazardous conditions, and public safety alerts. Sign up at: [www.oralert.gov](http://www.oralert.gov)

### Wheeler County Sheriff's Office Facebook Page -

Updates, evacuation notices, and zone-specific information will also be shared on the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. This is a critical source of up-to-date local information during an incident.

**First Responders and Dispatch** - In immediate emergencies, Mitchell's volunteer firefighters, EMTs, and law enforcement will conduct door-to-door notifications if necessary. Emergency dispatch will coordinate communication with responders on the ground.

**Public Health Alerts** - For events impacting public health, such as wildfire smoke or disease outbreaks, the Wheeler County Public Health Department will issue advisories.

### Is There a Warning Siren in Mitchell?

Mitchell does *have* a Siren, but currently it is not active in Mitchell's public emergency system. The local volunteer responders for fire and EMS rely on digital alerts (OR-Alert),

social media updates, and networks such as pagers and radios to communicate emergencies. This makes it essential for residents to stay connected through these systems.

### Where Should Residents Go in an Emergency?

Evacuation routes and safe zones depend on the type of emergency.

For example, in the case of a **wildfire**, residents will receive zone-specific evacuation orders.

For **public health emergencies**, temporary shelters or resource centers (such as the Mitchell School Gym or Cafeteria, the Mitchell Community Hall, the City Park, or the City Office) may be established.

Wheeler County's Emergency Operations Plan outlines these procedures and will be activated by County Emergency Management when necessary. Specific instructions will be delivered through OR-Alert and announced by first responders.

### What Can You Do to Prepare?

- Register for OR-Alert Today:  
Go to [www.oralert.gov](http://www.oralert.gov) and sign up to receive emergency notifications. You can choose how you wish to be contacted (text, email, phone).
- If you do not have internet access, you can still sign up for OR-Alert by calling Wheeler County Emergency Management at (541)763-2400. They can assist individuals in signing up for OR-Alert over the phone. Be prepared to provide a name, phone number, and address so that alerts can be targeted to your location.
- You can also register in person at the Wheeler County Courthouse in Fossil. Staff at the Emergency Management or Sheriff's Office can help residents register in person.
- Prepare a Family Emergency Plan:  
Make sure your household knows evacuation routes and has a supply kit ready. The Oregon OEM's "Be 2 Weeks Ready" initiative recommends having enough supplies to sustain your family for at least two weeks in case of extended disruptions.
- Stay Informed Locally:  
Attend community meetings on emergency preparedness and connect with local volunteer services to stay aware of updates.

In a small town like Mitchell, our strength is in our readiness and community spirit. By staying informed and prepared, we ensure that every neighbor knows what to do when the unexpected happens.

For more information, contact Wheeler County Emergency Management at (541) 763-2400 or visit their website at [www.wheelercountyoregon.com/emergency-management](http://www.wheelercountyoregon.com/emergency-management).



## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### School Starts Monday, August 25th

#### Fossil Food Pantry Distribution

Tuesday, August 26, 9 am - 12 noon

We served 73 families in July. We would also like to thank the donors for our new freezer! We lost one just before the distribution in July, and a couple of people stepped up and donated money so we could buy a new freezer to replace it. Thank you! If anyone needs food, please call or text Dawn Garcia (310)486-2397

**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, AUGUST 29th  
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](http://news@mitschellsentinel.com)

Advertising: Classified ADS and Community Advertisements are free. For business AD rates, call Dajuana or visit [MitchellSentinel.com/advertise](http://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

**MITCHELL LODGE No. 141,**  
**I. O. O. F.**  
Meets every Saturday evening in  
the I. O. O. F. hall  
A. KING, N. G.  
PAUL LYNCH, Secy.

**MITCHELL REBEKAH LODGE**  
**No. 189**  
Meets first and third Tuesdays in  
the I. O. O. F. hall.  
MRS. ELLA COLE, N. G.  
MRS. FLORENCE KING, Secy.

These Lodge Notices were published in the Wheeler County Chronicle on August 8, 1929. Little Pine Lodge was the IOOF hall at that time.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

### FOR SALE:

Wine Rack

With 3 shelves - one  
solid - 9 slots for wine  
\$60.00

28" wide x 66" tall

Come see at Judy's Place

Call (541)-462-3000

### 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

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



**\$105,000**

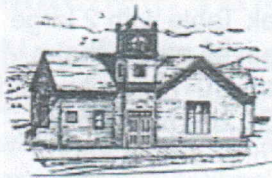
Listed by: Crook  
County Properties  
LLC (541)447-3020

## Solution

S	E	T	U	P		B	A	S	I	S		S	S	T
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# Mitchell Baptist Church



Serving Mitchell with Bible truths for those who have eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to accept.  
(Listen for the BELL!)

Sunday Services at 10:00 & 11:00 am  
Fellowship dinner following

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

Community Advertisement

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S.POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

## MITCHELL SENIOR MEAL

held at the Mitchell Community Hall  
on Nelson Avenue

THE LAST FRIDAY  
OF EVERY MONTH



60 and over: **\$5.00** Dinner Bell  
rings at Noon

59 and under:  
**\$6.00**



**PLEASE JOIN US**

Menu for  
AUGUST  
29th

*Chef's Choice*

## PAINTED HILLS VACATION



COTTAGES & RETREAT

## Housekeeper Needed

For more information,  
contact Barbara Jacobi  
(541)462-3921

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

Paid Advertisement



## AMBULANCE VOLUNTEERS



## NEEDED

**TRAINING PROVIDED**

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AMBULANCE FOR MORE INFO

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



**EMERGENCY:**  
CALL 9-1-1

**NON-EMERGENCY:**  
(541)384-2080

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