

2020

**A Guide to Oregon's
Northern Lake County
& Beyond**

*The Adventure
Starts Here*



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Chamber of Commerce**
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Welcome to The North End

Welcome to Lake County! Lake County encompasses a vast area of high desert at the edge of the Great Basin. The Northern end of the county (often referred to as North Lake) is home to the communities of Christmas Valley, Fort Rock, Silver Lake, Summer Lake and the small incorporated town of Paisley. Each community is distinctive with its own history and traditions, yet together they celebrate life on the High Desert with unity. 'North Lake County' is diverse and beautiful in its extremes.

Recreational opportunities abound - the area offers something for everyone. Hiking, Mt. Biking, Hunting and Fishing, an 80,000 acre Sand Box to ride and explore on your ATV, a challenging 3,000 yard links-style golf course and a host of fascinating geological sites that take visitors back through time. There are reservoirs, rivers, mountain trails, horse camps, wildlife sanctuaries and amazing birding. It is a great place to visit and a great place to live!

This guide is designed to enhance your visit by providing information to help make your experience the best it can be and to introduce you to the many businesses that support our primarily agrarian economy while at the same time provide information on the many services travelers may need along the way: Motels, Restaurants, RV parks and some great surprises when it comes to shopping.

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Christmas Valley/North Lake Chamber of Commerce

Business & Individual Memberships

Serving the Communities of Christmas Valley, Fort Rock, Paisley, Silver Lake and Summer Lake



541-576-3838

www.christmasvalleychamber.org

Info@christmasvalleychamber.org

Follow us on Facebook @ Christmas Valley North Lake Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 65
 Christmas Valley, OR 97641

Come See What's Happening in Lake County's North End!

“Outback” land with a natural ruggedness

It is, “a star-spangled landscape of marsh and mountain, of reflection and rim rock, of seamless vistas and sage-scented dreams.”

Jonathan Nicholas, publisher of the Oregonian



Christmas Valley Back Country Byway

Lakeview to Steens Mt. Back Country Byway

Plan time in your vacation or outing to explore -- add the Back Country Byways and all they offer!

The Basin and Range is the result of the North American plate being stretched as the smaller plates to its west were subducted and broken up during the Miocene Epoch (23 to 5 million years ago). The hot lower crust stretched in a plastic fashion while the brittle upper crust tore into rocky strips that foundered in the soft rock below, tilting into widely spaced ranges with basins between. This activity was accompanied by ferocious volcanism and the emplacement of widespread metal deposits. During wet times the basins became lakes; in dry times like today most basins dried into dusty *playas*. Most of these events are visible in the rocks and landforms along the Outback Scenic Byway.

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The Lake County Board of Commissioners



Brad Winters



James Williams



Mark Albertson



Barry Shallenberger

The Lake County Board of Commissioners will have a new face in January 2021 when long-time commissioner Brad Winters seat will be filled by newly elected commissioner Barry Shallenberger. Mr. Winters has served Lake County for many years and is looking forward to enjoying retirement and new life adventures.

Welcome you to Beautiful Lake County

History and General Information

Lake County was created from Jackson and Wasco Counties by the 1874 Legislature. At that time, it included what is today, Klamath County and all of the present Lake County, with the exception of Warner Valley. In 1882, Klamath was removed and, in 1885 the Warner area from Grant County was added.

In area, Lake County is 8359 square miles, making it the third largest county in Oregon, Conversely, the County's population is averaged at just slightly less than one person per square mile.

The County's cities and towns are: Lakeview, an incorporated city that serves as the county seat; the tiny communities of Adel and Plush; Paisley, an incorporated town of about 250 residents; Summer Lake, a tiny hub for surrounding ranchers and farmers; Christmas Valley, an unincorporated town which serves as the commercial center for communities located in the county's northern end; and the small towns of Silver Lake and Fort Rock, each serving wide ranging area ranches and farms.

Lake County is a kaleidoscope of large cattle ranches, and hay farms with a couple of large sheep operations thrown in the mix. Recreational opportunities are found throughout the county. Visitors will not only enjoy the amazing landscapes, but the lakes, rivers, geologic sites and camping.

Hunters love the area where there is a good deal of big game: Elk, Mule Deer and Antelope and some very good bird hunting as well. Those who love to fish will find that the high desert offers some great fly fishing as well and a chance to land a trophy bass.

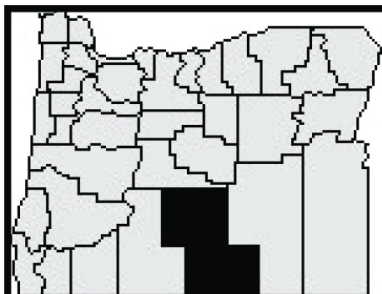
Hiking and wildlife viewing - photography - hang gliding. You name it and Lake County has it. There are also several camps and trail systems that are great for folks who enjoy trail riding.

Lastly there is the giant sand box not far from Christmas Valley where OHV riders come to play.



Points of Interest

- Abert Rim
- Christmas Valley Sand Dunes
- Crack in the Ground
- Ft. Rock State Park
- Gearhart Wilderness
- Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge
- Hole in the Ground
- Hunter's Hot Springs
- Lost Forest
- Old Perpetual Geyser
- Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge
- Summer Lake Hot Springs
- Summer Lake Wildlife Area
- Sunstone Gathering near Plush
- Warner Canyon Refuge
- Warner Wetlands



Real Market Value:
\$1,198,406,596
Annual Precipitation:
15.80"
Economy: Livestock,
forest products,
agriculture, recreation

Museums

- Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum
- Lake County Museum
- Lake County Round-Up Museum
- Schminck Memorial Museum

Contact Information/County Seat

Courthouse, 513 Center St.
Lakeview, OR 97631
Phone: 541-947-6051
www.lakecountyor.org

FORT ROCK



Explore - Be Surprised

Fort Rock is an unincorporated township not far off Highway 31. Named for the prominent volcanic feature that dominates one's view, the surrounding area boasts large cattle and hay growing operations as well as some substantial solar farms.

The hub of the town includes two full-service restaurants and bars, a small grocery that also has fuel, an RV park and the local Grange.

The Fort Rock Natural Area and State Park are only a mile off the highway as is the historic Fort Rock Cemetery where many homesteaders lay at rest along with more recent residents who have passed.

Also near the tiny town's center is the Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum where visitors can immerse themselves in the history of Oregon's high desert.

Fort Rock is a space in time worth exploring. Drive the back roads (if your vehicle has good tires, clearance and plenty of fuel) and discover vistas, canyons and grottoes you never imagined were hidden in the oceans of the desert's brush-covered floor.

Fort Rock Community Church



Fort Rock, Oregon

God's Love and Work Practiced Here

1st Corinthians 13:13

Helping others find eternal life through Jesus Christ

Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
**Potluck 3rd Sunday of each
month after service**

Pastor Jeremy Warkentin

541-647-0842

————— **Come Join Us** —————

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The Rock and Its Geology

What might you get when basaltic magma rises to a surface that is a mud covered lake-bottom? You may get what is called a **tuff ring**. Such geologic events create an incredibly powerful jet of steam that blows molten basalt into the air which then become a fountain of hot particles and frothy ash. These come to rest around the vent and form a ring. If the event is significant enough the resulting tuff may be an island in the lake. In the case of the ancient Fort Rock Lake it is notable that the valley floor beneath was comprised of layers of red and black lava rock. Some of this material was also dislodged and was incorporated in the resulting tuff ring.

Over many thousands of years the wave action of the ancient and receding Fort Rock Lake eroded and cut terraces into the tuff ring. This wave action



Wave-cut platform on the east horn of the Fort Rock Volcano

along with strong prevailing southerly winds eventually took out a section of the tuff wall. (Fort Rock Lake was the largest pluvial lake in Oregon and covered over 1260 square miles to a depth of 320 feet.)

Current scientific thought on the age of Fort Rock have it as 50,000 to 100,000 years old. The highest lake level in the tuff's history is based on the ramifications of wave action and occurred about 21,000 years ago.

Fort Rock is without a doubt one of the most recognizable geologic features in Oregon. Jutting up over 200 feet, Fort Rock today truly represents a major story in the geologic diary of the edge of the Great Basin. Its iconic fort-like appearance offers an ever-changing array of color, texture and shadow. It is interesting to note that the Fort Rock tuff ring is one of approximately 40 such features in the Brothers Fault Zone of the Fort Rock basin.

HIKING THE ROCK

An excerpt from "Fort Rock Loop Hike," OregonHikers.com a service of Trail Hikers of Oregon)

From the parking area (at Fort Rock State Park) hike up past the new covered picnic area through honeycombed boulders, and bear right at a junction. Take a rougher tread up to the wavecut platform at the tip of the crescent-shaped outcropping's eastern horn. There are views south to the Conley Hills across a wide, flat expanse of sagebrush. Drop down to a wide path, and then take narrow footpath leading off to the right through sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and clumps of fescue. Keep alert for cottontail rabbits and fence lizards scuttling off. Descend to the wide track, and bear right to hike up towards the rim of tuff, noting a few scattered western junipers and wax currant bushes, and passing above a tuff pillar. Follow a stone-lined loop path to the base of the cliff, and then drop down to the right to descend a narrow defile.

Before you reach the bottom of the defile, look for a scramble trail leading up to your right. This

will take you to the rim to get a view across the sagebrush flat, actually the bed of the Fort Rock Paleolake, to a smaller volcanic outcropping to the



west with a cave. This is the place where sagebrush bark sandals, the world's oldest footwear, as well as

See Hiking the Rock, Page 10.

HIGH DESERT RANCHING

By Jana Kittredge

When you enter the Fort Rock Basin from any corner, you enter into a strikingly beautiful agricultural community. Much of the beauty of this area directly stems from farm production and cattle grazing.

Over 100 years ago, people came from all over the United States to seek fertile farm land and a better life. Because of the Homestead Act of 1864, many were granted 160 acre parcels to homestead.

Much to their surprise, the homesteaders found it to be a very difficult way of life. They had to develop wells for water, build homes from materials found throughout the area, and plant crops they hoped would grow in arid areas.

Had not these farmers and ranchers succeeded, today's wildlife habitat would not exist. Natural resources are continually renewed by local farmers and ranchers. Our arid desert has very limited ground water and most water here is obtained from wells.

Cattle grazing enhances the success of all types of regional wildlife, creates fire suppression and helps protect all our natural resources. Big game benefit from new grass growth. If it weren't for cattle grazing, the grasses would become "wolfy," and unpalatable to big game. Without cattle on the arid range, there would be no water available for wildlife. Local ranchers responsibly provide this resource not

only for their herds but also for the wildlife such as mule deer, antelope, elk, sage grouse, cougar, coyotes, bobcats, many raptors including bald and golden eagles, hawks, falcons and owls and an abundance of quail and turtle-doves.

During your visit to the area, think about the dedication, devotion and affection local landowners give to this territory. Farmers and ranchers are the current stewards

of the land, continually caring for it in the best way possible. They are educated, dedicated, hard-working individuals with a mission: To make a living and produce a safe, abundant and affordable food supply, while being extraordinary stewards of the land!

Their lifestyle is about being here, being with family, and continuing the tradition.



Photo by Marie Brain

Cattle moving along Hwy 31 in Summer Lake

The Coldest Cattle Drive Ever

By Becky Messner

Remembering the winter of 1982, bringing 1000 head of Lane Ranch cattle home from the summer pasture on the Klamath Marsh back to the Silver Lake Ranch for the winter.

The first day of the cattle drive started from the Lane Ranch Three Creeks cabin across the swampland to the YJ Ranch. There we would camp overnight with Clinton and Mary Anne Basey. They were the managers of the YJ. The YJ was originally started and owned by the William Kittredge family. The fond memories of Clinton and Mary's warm house - the smell of coffee and red beans cooking on the stove.

The next morning we were up before daylight and it was 40 below! Mary Anne fixed me up with butane hand-warmers that fit inside my gloves - they kept my hands warm throughout the day.



These memories will always hold dear to me:
The smell of red beans cooking
The taste of my Mom's soft raisin cookies
And an especially cold winter's day

Becky Messner

to stay warm.

Dad, Earnie Messner, would be in the lead of the drive and started warming fires along the trail. I don't think any of us would have made it without those fires.

When we reached the county road, along came a pick-up. It was Ed Osborne and his hired man Gibb. Ed ran cattle in the Klamath Marsh area at the Dennis Place at Jackson Creek - not far from the YJ ranch. They had something strong to drink that sure warmed us up but quick.

Not long after Ed and Gibb left us Kenneth Emmerly of Silver Lake stopped to visit. He had a summer ranch at the Marsh around Military Crossing. Kenneth got out of his pick-up and got his jug of R&R Whiskey - something he always had with him. It was so cold out that the whiskey had turned to slush - AND THAT'S THE TRUTH!

My mom, Norma, would be waiting for us at the top of Reservation Hill with a campfire going and a big lunch. She would have coffee, hot chocolate, sandwiches, stew and soft raisin cookies. After lunch we started out again.

Dad had made sure that the hired hands had set hay out at our next overnight spot which was Antelope Flat. It was important to my Dad that the cattle had good feed and water on such long hard winter drives.

Day three - the last day of the Cattle Drive. We would rest the cattle part way between Antelope Flat and Silver Lake at the Frank and Viola Pitcher ranch on Buck Creek. Then on the rest of the way to the Lane Ranch.

Please Watch for Farm Machinery and Cattle on Roadways Slow down! Be courteous

Motorists Beware!

Safety is #1 on the Farm. We care about your safety and ours!

Don't assume the farmer knows you're there and don't assume the farmer can immediately move aside to let you pass. A farmer understands that your trip is being delayed; he or she will pull off the road at the first available safe location to allow you to pass. Even if you have to slow down to 20 mph and follow a tractor for two miles, it takes only six minutes of your time, which is approximately the same as waiting for two stoplights. Don't assume a farm vehicle that pulls to the side of the road is turning or letting you pass. Due to the size of some farm implements, the farmer must execute wide turns in both directions.

We care about your safety
Please Drive Carefully
Farm Machinery
on Roadways
Oregon women for Agriculture

With common sense and caution, this farming and harvest season can be travel-safe for everyone on and off the farm.

HIKING THE ROCK



From Page 7

other Paleolithic artifacts about 10,000 years old, were found in 1938 (On topographical maps, the cave appears as the Reub Long Cave; Long was the rancher who owned the land here at the time.

After taking in the broad landscape, descend the defile to keep right and continue around the floor of the volcano. At a four-way junction, you can find an obvious trail that leads up to the rim for the same views of Fort Rock Cave. At the west end of the tuff ring, you can walk up to another obvious wavecut platform.

To circle back around the outside of Fort Rock's tuff cliffs, keep right around the base of the western horn, also known as the Shark Fin. Pass two junipers, and cross a barbed wire fence. You're still on public land, but the area beyond the fence is leased for cattle grazing. Cut up

towards the cliffs to find an obvious trail that stays about 30 yards from the base. Look up at the cliffs on this end to see numerous surreal examples of tafoni, or honeycomb weathering, where the rock in some places seems to drip and in others displays honeycomb-like structures. This form of chemical weathering involves the interplay of salt crystals in the tuff with wet/dry and freezing/thawing cycles. You'll also get views west towards Fort Rock Cave, about half a mile away.

Pass above a fence corner, and continue below a low point on the rim. Reach a group of boulders where numerous cattle trails braid. Head up close to the colorful lichen-stained cliffs to find a more defined trail. Rounding the tuff wall, large irrigated crop circles hove into view in the farmland below. Keep

close to the base of cliffs as you choose different paths. As the Fort Rock Trailhead comes into view, you'll pick up a more defined track again that leads you to a turnstile in a fence and then the covered picnic area

Start point:
Fort Rock Trail Head
Ending Point:
Fort Rock Cave Viewpoint
Hike Type: Loop
Distance: 2.3 miles
Elevation gain: 260 feet
High Point: 4,495 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Seasons: All year
Family Friendly: Yes
Backpackable: No
Crowded: No

North Lake Towing & Service LLC



24 Hour Towing
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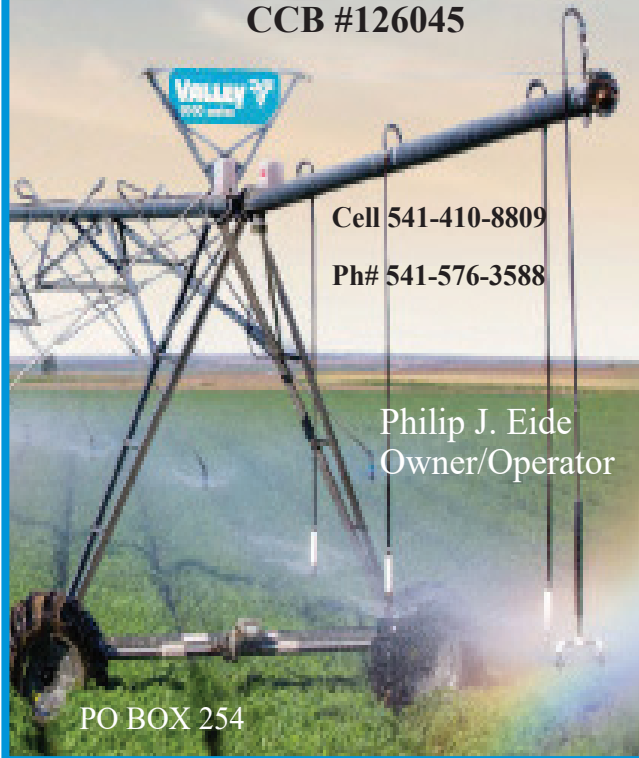
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Owner/Operator

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Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum

Open May 21~ September 27

Thursday ~ Friday ~ Saturday ~ Sunday ~

Holidays & by Special Request

11 am ~ 5 pm

Last Tour - 4:30 pm

541-576-2251

frmuseum@centurylink.net

www.fortrockoregon.com



Admission: \$5 adult, \$3 Children 12 and under, five and under FREE

Get Lost in Homestead History

When visiting the Oregon high desert, be sure to find the Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum located in Fort Rock! Participate in self-guided tour and see what it was like to live in the area over a century ago.

Life was tough and very different during the homestead era of the early 1900s. The Fort Rock Valley was home to several long gone villages and towns, such as Fremont, Wastina and Fleetwood.

The federal Homestead Act of 1862 provided Americans the chance to own their own land by filing an

application, improving the land, and filing for deed of title. Any U.S. citizen, or intended citizen, who had never borne arms against the U.S. Government could apply and lay claim to 160

acres of surveyed Government land. For five year after a claim was approved, the homesteader had to live on the land and

a short growing season combined with harsh winters. Heat and cooking was provided by wood stoves.

The area still has a short growing season with harsh winters.

Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum portrays this pioneer era and displays preserved homestead-era structures that were moved from their original locations to the museum site, just west of the town of Fort Rock.

Buildings have been renovated and furnished in early 1900s décor. Come and experience what life was like in Oregon's High Desert back then.

Thirteen buildings and structures in
Continued on Page 12.

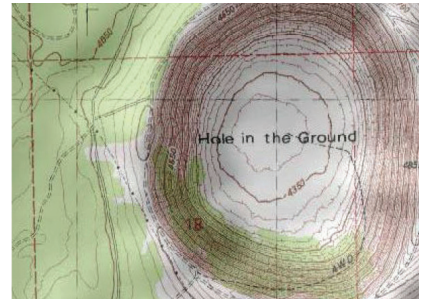


growing crops.

In the Fort Rock basin, wells for water had to be dug, sometimes by hand, and all of the farm land was cultivated using horse-drawn implements. Remember, when homesteaders moved to Fort Rock, there was no electricity.

The people who came had no idea of the semi-arid land with

Hole-In-The-Ground: It's a big deal



Coordinates: 43°24'10"N 121°11'54"W
/ 43.4029089°N 121.1983457°W
Coordinates: 43°24'10"N 121°11'54"W
/ 43.4029089°N 121.1983457°W

Seen in a small photograph, it is difficult to gain a sense of just how enormous this geological feature is. Hole-in-the-Ground is really huge! And, it is well worth a side trip while enjoying and exploring Oregon's Outback.

The floor of the crater is about 490 feet below the surrounding ground level with its rim rising 110-210 feet. The distance across the crater is about one mile.

Hole-in-the-Ground is between 13,500 and 18,000 years old and was once quite near the shore of the Fort Rock Basin's ancient lake.

It was thought that the 'Hole' was the result of a meteoric impact, however, more study has

shown it to be of volcanic origin caused when Basaltic magma intruded near the surface ground water and turned it to steam which then blew out overlaying rock and soil.

A huge hole was formed and over time material slid into the crater covering the vent. This process occurred many times. During these events blocks of basalt as large as 26 feet were flung as far as 2.3 miles from the crater.

There is a trail around the crater's rim as well as a trail that takes hikers down the rim's side, across the crater floor

and up an un-drivable jeep road.

Enjoy!

Get Lost in History *From page 11*

a village setting include a school, church, store and several period homes. A blacksmith shop and heritage garden give visitors a sense of the hard labor and work that filled the every day experiences that were part of surviving at that time.

A barn was recently built and added to the homestead structures to house a cowboy chuck wagon, a horse drawn carriage, and several other authentic pieces from the time period.

Also constructed this past spring by a local chapter of the Abernethy Gray ECV historic preservation volunteers is a hitching post, where period farmers and ranchers tied up their horses and locals still use it today.

Displays are updated and items rotated to make each visit a unique experience. Donations of pre-1940s era are added as space allows.

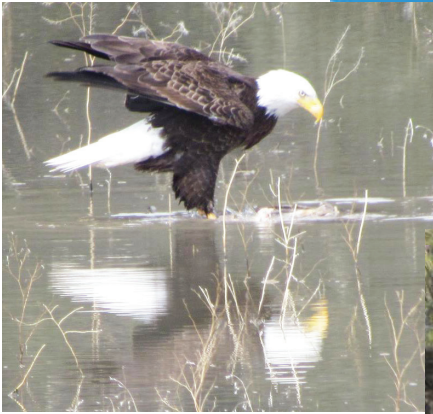
Features of the Museum:

- Self-guided tours
- Artifacts and documents of the time period displayed in every building
- Gift shop where visitors may purchase T-shirts (new artwork this spring!), history and area books, cards and more
- Guided tours with advance reservations (schools and large groups; see website for application)
- Church rental for small group events
- Photographers and filmmakers may also reserve/rent museum space

Our Daily Birds: Bird watching & Photo Opportunities

Condensed from an article By Mary Jo Hedrick ~ Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

A wide variety of habitats from forest to desert shrub, from marsh to meadows can be found in Lake County and diverse habitats attract a wide array of birds. Even more fun for watchers is that with each season the variety of birds too will change.



Many species of raptors (hawks and eagles) can be observed throughout Lake County. Often they will sit atop power poles, pivots and fence posts.

Sandhill Cranes visit during the spring and summer breeding season and can be seen in the agricultural fields around Silver Lake, Summer Lake and Paisley. Viewers are urged to use binoculars or spotting scopes, and watch the Cranes from a distance.

Summer Lake Wildlife Area is one of best waterfowl viewing sites in Oregon during spring and fall migrations.



Photos by
Fawn Newport

The area consists of a large marsh with associated uplands that also support shorebirds, songbirds and

mammals. Enjoy the eight-mile tour route between February and September. *Please be aware, occasionally the Viewing Loop may be temporarily closed due to habitat management activities.*

March through April, see migrating waterfowl flocks: ducks in their best breeding plumage, geese and swans. April through May see migrant waterbirds and songbirds. Fall migration picks up in August. Bird checklists and maps are available at the check station.

The Southern Oregon Basin & Range Birding Trail is a winding auto route that highlights specific sites for stopping and viewing birds among vast inland valleys, alkali flats, ethereal marshes, and forested slopes. Maps and recommended routes can be found at www.basinrangebirdingtrail.com.

The Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Recreation Report birding information is updated weekly and can be found at: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/viewing/birdwatching.asp>

Sandhill Cranes: Ties to Pre History

Sandhill cranes have one of the longest fossil histories of any extant bird. A 10 million year old crane fossil from Nebraska is said to be of this species, but this could be from a prehistoric relative or the direct ancestor of sandhill cranes and not belong in the genus *Grus*.

The oldest unequivocal Sandhill crane fossil is 2.5 million years old, older by half than the earliest remains of most living species of birds, primarily found from after the Pliocene/Pleistocene boundary some 1.8 million years ago.

As you travel along the shoreline of Summer Lake and along through Paisley and into Lakeview, keep an eye out for these amazing birds. You may get to see the parents and their young colts - yes that is what the young Sandhills are called - as they feed along the lake's edge.



The Oldest Dated Footwear In the World

The year was 1938. Anthropologist Luther Cressman, from the University of Oregon was on a dig at the Fort Rock Cave (located about one mile from Ft. Rock) when he unearthed weapons, tools, scrapers, drills awls, baskets and most memorably more than 70 pairs of sagebrush sandals.

Cressman was convinced that these artifacts were at least 9000 years old. Of course there was no way Cressman could validate the age of the sandals, radio carbon dating was still more than ten years off.

Finally in 1951 Fibers from the sandals were dated to more than 9000 years old. Cressman had it right.

The stye of sandal Cressman uncovered are know as The Fort Rock Sandals. Footwear of the same structure has also been found in six other sites in Southeastern Oregon and Northwestern Nevada. They are all called Fort Rock Sandals..

“The Sandals are made of shredded sagebrush bark. They are twined, with pairs of fiber wefts twisted around passive warps . . . The foundation of the flat sole is five thick wraps, consisting of two long ropes folded into a . . . U-shape at the heel and a single central warp. Construction begins at the heel by twining pairs of fibers back and forth across the sole. Each weft row is packed tightly against the previous row



to completely cover the warp and add strength to the sole.” Thomas J Connolly explained.

This process continued from the heel to toe until the desired length was reached. Then fibers at the toe were separated and brought over to create a toe flap. There is much more to the process and much information is available online about the history of sandals discovery as well as other archeological discoveries in Oregon's High Desert.

Fort Rock Natural Area and State Park

Fort Rock, a National Natural Landmark, is located in the Oregon desert about 70 miles southeast of Bend, Oregon and about one mile north of the town of Fort Rock.

Part of the northern Great Basin, the Fort Rock Valley is part of an ancient dried lake. Fort Rock is an old *tuff ring* created by volcanic action in what was a shallow sea in prehistoric times.

Looking like a huge fort from forgotten times, its rugged rock walls rise 325 feet above the plain. When you take the trail around the interior of the ‘Fort’ you realize just how huge this geological feature is.

On your way to visit the ‘Rock’ take a few minutes to wander through the Fort Rock Cemetery which, by the way, continues to be the final resting place for many local residents. The Fort Rock Cave is only about 1.2 mile west of Ft. Rock. It is famous as the site where Archaeologist Luther Cressman discovered sage-bark sandals dating back 9-10,000 years.

If you plan ahead you can schedule a tour of the Ft. Rock Cave by contacting Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Exploring off the beaten track requires research and planning

Many travelers in today's world of technology place great trust in GPS information . “Just Google it,” is a common thought. And for the most part, in more urban settings, that process works just fine. Not so much in the High Desert.

Every year our local Search and Rescue teams are called upon to locate and bring back to safety folks that became lost or stranded because their device opted for the ‘*most direct route*’ rather than one on maintained gravel or paved roads.

The result is that folks find themselves on

roads that have no signs - roads that have deep ruts from winter and spring thaws and run-off and frequently no place to even turn around. They may encounter boggy areas with soil so slick that traction is lost.

The long and the short of it is what may have begun as an adventure ended up a journey that came to a frightening halt.



Christmas Valley



Photo by Terry Crawford



Welcome to Christmas Valley

Christmas Valley is all about contrasts. When traveling through the area visitors will at one moment be surrounded by an endless ocean of desert brushes and bunch grass and in the twinkle of an eye, by vast circular fields of emerald green alfalfa and pastures filled with grazing cattle.

You are driving through what was once an ancient inland sea. The surrounding buttes, mountains and other elevated geologic features comprised its perimeter and the resulting landscape we see today.

You won't see Christmas tree farms; we grow HAY - lots of hay - some of the best Alfalfa Hay in the world. Most fields are watered by pivotal delivery systems that some describe as *Agricultural Sculptures*.

The little unincorporated town of Christmas Valley serves as the economic hub for the county's northern end with businesses ranging from suppliers of massive farming equipment and auto parts to a drive-through coffee stand.

Visitors will discover three wonderful, yet very different, gift shops, two groceries, a produce stand and several restaurants plus a full-service deli at one of the two markets.

There are two motels, and an RV park with full

hook ups and a bath-house. Tent camping sites are also available. And, should one need a tire repaired there is a full-service tire shop too. Traveling in an RV, folks at times need repairs and they will find such services are available.

A small general store near the town's center offers a variety of items travelers often find themselves in need of - socks to frying pans and everything in between.

What visitors and residents alike find so alluring in this often harsh high-altitude area are the spectacular sunrises and sunsets, and a vast expanse of sky that pleases the eye and the heart.

Night skies are spectacular. With little ambient light, one is treated to clear views of stars, planets and constellations; many of which are undetectable in city scapes.

Walking on the desert floor or in the surrounding hills, hikers may see tiny groups of desert lilies and other wild flowers or a nest full of quail eggs. Wildlife is everywhere, pronghorn antelope, mule deer, coyotes, jack rabbits and cottontails, and if you're lucky you might spot an elk or two.



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Crack-in-the-Ground: Fun for the Whole Family

Crack-in-the-Ground is the result of tectonic and volcanic activity and is fairly new at only about 1,000 years. Viewed from the air its name is self explanatory.

Over all the feature is more than two miles long, however most is not accessible. The entrance is to the right as you reach the hiker log box. A little scramble down and over some large boulders and you're on your way to a cool (even in summer you may need a light jacket or sweater) adventure through time. Much of the trail is unobstructed; there are a few rock-falls to negotiate and one choke stone to go under.

Wherever your gaze lands you will find interesting cracks, crevices and intriguing formations. At one point there is a narrow vertical gash that reveals a section of a parallel space that has not caved in. Look up and you see an expanse of deep blue sky.

This is a great, multi-generational outing as other than the scramble in, the difficulty is moder-



The sky as seen from the Crack's bottom

ate. The kids are delighted with the adventure and the adults take pleasure in the more subtle aspects of the hike. And as hikers return through the crack they soon discover new and interesting perspectives around each bend.

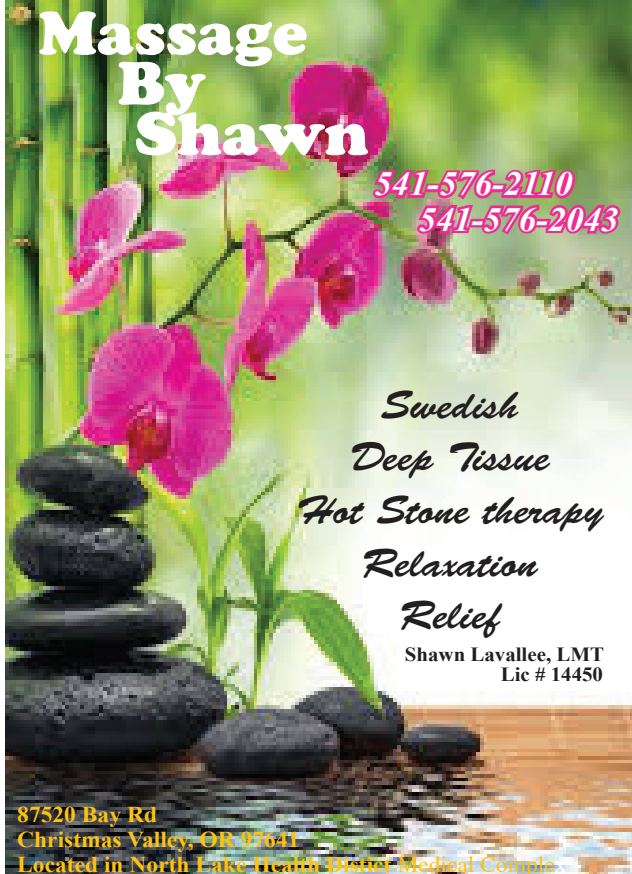
The trail parking lot is just a short drive from Christmas Valley with a 1/4 mile walk in to the trail's beginning.

Coordinates:
43.332436, -120.671017

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A Forum for Community Happenings, Writers and News

The Breeze is mailed to 1265 households and businesses in the northern communities of Lake County

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The Community Breeze

Published
Monthly

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thecommunitybreeze.com

Owner/Editor
Terry Crawford

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

About nine years ago a void was created when a local publication closed its doors. Enter Terry Crawford a recent resident with a love of writing, graphic design and layout. Crawford made a snap decision to fill that empty space with a new publication - one geared toward a little news, and a lot of content.

The first issue was just eight pages. Amazingly before Crawford reached home, after delivering the papers to local post offices, she had received two calls from area writers who wanted to regularly contribute to the publication. And so the pa-

per grew. First to 12 pages then to 16. And from 50/50 color to full color and great visual appeal.

“The goal” says Crawford, “is to offer the communities of the North end of Lake County a enjoyable read each month as well as a publication that guarantees advertisers a copy will reach every deliverable address in these communities.”

Without writers like Toni Bailie, Gloria Heglar, The Prospector, Becky Womack, Marie and Gary Brain, Laura Parks and several guest contributors, *The Community Breeze* would not be the welcome addition it has become.

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North Lake Park and Recreation hosts its *Two-Person Best Ball* with a BBQ to follow at Greg Rhondo's on Friday July 3rd Sign up at 8:30am near the first tee ~ Play starts at 9 am. Entry fee \$10 plus greens fee

The Parade!

July 4th Parade through the middle of town

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Line-up in front of Gifts n More on Park Rd. Judging will begin at 10:40 am with trophies being presented to winning entries as they enter the highway. The parade travels east on the highway for nearly a mile.

There will not be candy thrown from the floats this year as we try to stay in compliance with social distancing

**CV Pyrotechs
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10 PM**



A HISTORY OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

J.W. Kerns, Inc. has a long history of providing essential service and supplies for the farms and ranches of our community. James Walter Kerns established the company in 1921 on the premise of providing the Klamath Basin with the best agricultural parts and service. Through the years the company expanded by introducing and utilizing progressive and innovative agricultural technologies along with widening their service area. Their service area soon extended into Southwestern Nevada and Northern California, as well as outward to Grants Pass, Medford, and Christmas Valley. This resulted in the beginnings of their Christmas Valley store in 1993.

Herb Vloedmann stocked a small inventory of parts in his Christmas Valley shop. He sold Irrigation pivots and parts. By 1997 it was time for renting some store space. Roddy Hash had a great location for J.W. Kerns, Inc. to move into. In two short years the building was purchased, and the store kept growing. That is when new areas of expansion began by stocking some hardware and dog food.

By 2007 the need for more space was evident. A 500-sf addition to the building allowed for increasing the hardware selection and stocking paint. A modest amount of livestock feed and some veterinary supplies were added too.

It was 2010 when the current location was purchased. They then had 5000-sf of inside sales space to offer even more to the community. Irrigation continued to be the primary offering, but Animal feed and care became a major part of sales. This led to the 720-sf attached hay shed and expanding the selection of fencing. J.W. Kerns fabrication workers (at the Klamath store) built gate racks to display the new inventory. Building and gardening supplies were also a growing demand. 1800-sf of covered outside storage was added and filled with these products in 2016.

J.W. Kerns, Inc. Christmas Valley store continues to fill the needs of farms and ranches in North Lake County after 27 years of service. The employees are local residents. Jacob Chess leads the team as store manager and Irrigation specialist. He is assisted by Shelly Strong and Rhonda Elliott. Phil Eide is a key part of irrigation sales. Phil sells, installs, and services through his business, Eide Electric. The team is completed with a couple of top notch, part time fellows, Dan Maple and Tom Andreas.

Today, J.W. Kerns Inc. is working hard in their 99th year of irrigation sales and service.



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Geological Sites & Side Trips

Devil's Garden



Latitude: 43.512 N
Longitude: 120.861 W

The Blowouts, the spatter vents in the foreground, are some of the source vents of the voluminous Devil's Garden lava field.

Devil's Garden Volcanic Field is located southeast of Newberry Caldera in Oregon and consists of several flows of pahoehoe lava (thick slow flowing) that erupted from fissure vents in the northeast part of the Devil's Garden.

The main vent on the north end of the fissure fed two large gutter/tube systems.

Several small vents to the south produced The Blowouts (two large spatter cones), several small spatter cones, and flows. Several older hills and higher areas were completely surrounded by the flows to form kiputas. The distal ends of the flows show excellent examples of inflated lava.

The flows cover an area of 45 square miles and are most likely between 50,000 and 10,000 years old. It is older than the formation of Crater Lake as ash from the eruption of Mount Mazama overlays the Devil's Garden lava flows.

Derrick Cave

Derrick Cave's entrance looks like a broken-face hole in the ground, but once inside you are in a wide lava tube that runs in two directions. The north cave is small. It is the main southern section of the cave that is fun to explore. It slopes downward, its floor covered in fine volcanic sand. Several areas of ceiling have collapsed allowing light to filter in.

Once past the last of these light sources you will need artificial light. A short walk will bring you to a large room that is 80 feet wide with a ceiling height of 46 feet. There is more to explore beyond the *Big Room*. You will see signs of the actual lava flow such as *lava-cicles* hanging from the ceiling, etched walls, and overhanging rounded shelves. The cave is at 4,960 feet, its length is 1,134 feet long and ranges from 14.5 to 53 feet below ground level.

Derrick Cave is located at the northeast corner of Devil's Garden about 22 miles from the commu-



nity of Fort Rock. The road taken to reach the cave is very rough and there are no facilities at the site. Visitors are advised to plan carefully for the trip and also to plan on wearing a jacket, even in summer, as cave temperatures are quite cool. Be sure to bring along reliable illumination.

Big Hole



You can just make out the crater rim in this photo.

Find Big Hole by driving Oregon 31 for 19.6 miles southeast from U.S. 97 (just south of La Pine). The turnoff for Big Hole comes 1.4 miles east of the signed county line.

Leave the pavement and drive .3 miles south on a dirt forest road to signed road 2451-400. Take this road and you will soon be driving a 3.5 mile circle around Big Hole

Big Hole is such a large volcanic crater (about 6,000 feet in diameter) that this feature often goes unnoticed when viewing a topographical map. The rim walls are 300 to 425 feet high.

Over time native Ponderosa Pines have established themselves on the crater's floor.

Christmas Valley Sand Dunes

Welcome to the Christmas Valley Sand Dunes, the largest inland shifting sand dune system in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. The complex covers 11,000 acres of which approximately 8,900 acres are open to vehicles. These dunes, often up to 60 feet high, are composed primarily of ash and pumice from the eruption of Mt. Mazama, that formed Crater Lake, 7,000 years ago.

The area offers a variety of activities including off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, hiking, sightseeing, photography, and camping and are enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year. Since these activities often conflict, users are encouraged to respect the rights of other visitors as they enjoy their visit.

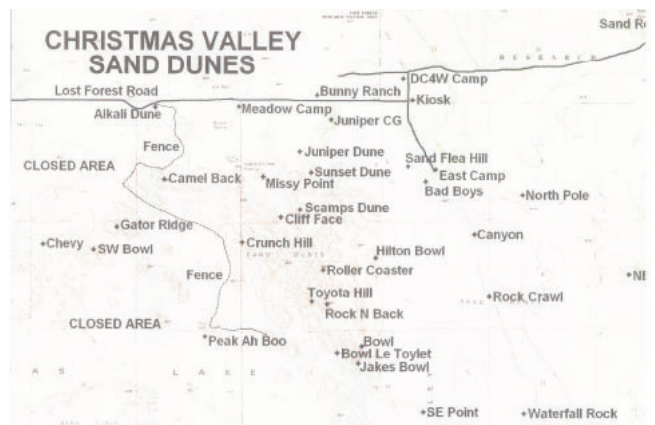


All Oregon state laws and regulations pertaining to off-highway vehicles apply. Vehicle operators must have a valid driver's license, state-issued all-terrain vehicle operator's permit, or be accompanied by someone 18 or older with a valid driver's license. In addition, all off-road vehicles must have a red or orange flag on an extended antenna while driving on the dunes.

State alcohol and drugs laws also apply to all vehicle operator and passengers. A \$10 Oregon ATV operator permit may be required. A valid driver's license in addition to an Oregon DOT helmet for persons under 18 years of age

Christmas Valley Sand Dunes
www.deschutescounty4wheelers.com

Landmark	Latitude	Longitude
ALKALI DUNE	43°21'17"N	120°25'8"W
BAD BOYS CAMP	43°20'41"N	120°22'4"W
BOWL	43°19'20"N	120°22'48"W
BOWL LE TOILET	43°19'18"N	120°23'04"W
BUNNY RANCH	43°21'22"N	120°23'18"W
CAMEL BACK DUNE	43°20'42"N	120°25'01"W
CANYON	43°20'15"N	120°21'31"W
CHEVY TRUCK	43°20'10"N	120°26'24"W
CLIFF FACE	43°20'23"N	120°23'42"W
CRUNCH HILL	43°20'11"N	120°24'06"W
EAST CAMP	43°20'47"N	120°21'57"W
GATOR RIDGE	43°20'18"N	120°25'34"W
HILTON BOWL	43°20'04"N	120°22'38"W
JAKES BOWL	43°19'13"N	120°22'50"W
JUNIPER CAMPGROUND	43°21'10"N	120°23'08"W
JUNIPER DUNE	43°20'55"N	120°23'29"W
KIOSK	43°21'20"N	120°22'14"W
MEADOW CAMP	43°21'17"N	120°24'11"W
MISSY POINT	43°20'43"N	120°23'54"W
NORTH POLE	43°20'34"N	120°20'58"W
NORTHEAST CORNER	43°19'56"N	120°19'46"W
PEAK AH BO	43°19'25"N	120°24'34"W
ROCK CRAWL	43°19'45"N	120°21'21"W
ROCK N BAC	43°19'41"N	120°23'11"W
ROLLER COASTER	43°19'58"N	120°23'13"W
SAND FLEA HILL	43°20'48"N	120°22'18"W
SCAMPS DUNE	43°20'27"N	120°23'29"W
SOUTHEAST POINT	43°18'49"N	120°22'08"W
SOUTHWEST BOWL	43°20'07"N	120°25'50"W
SUNSET DUNE	43°20'45"N	120°23'22"W
TOYOTA HILL	43°18'42"N	120°23'21"W
WATERFALL ROCK	43°18'49"N	120°20'57"W



THE RULES

The Christmas Valley Sand Dunes are no secret to ATV enthusiasts. On major holidays such as Memorial Day and the 4th of July it is not unusual to see several thousand visitors camping at and riding the dunes.

- Whip flag that extends 8 ft from the ground**
- Stay on designated routes** Any trails without an "Open Road" sign is closed.
- No person shall operate an off-highway vehicle in a manner likely to cause environmental damage. Do not run over vegetation.**
- Do not collect firewood from the Lost Forest**
- Do not bring in, dispose of or possess any firewood containing nails, screws, or other metal hardware.**
- Spark arresters are required on all OHVs**
- Fossil Lake ACEC is closed to vehicles**
- Lost Forest RNA - stay on designated trails only.**
- Respect private property in the area.**

FINDING YOUR WAY TO THE DUNES



Oregon's Basin and Range

As you travel through and explore Oregon's Outback and its scenic byways, it soon becomes apparent that geologically there is a lot going on. You see a flat-topped mountain, a massive cliff that runs for more than 20 miles, vast oceans of sagebrush, rabbit brush and bunchgrass, isolated islands of lava flow, buttes and tuffs. Some of the features found throughout the region are so massive they may not register as a single entity. Throughout this Guide we have highlighted some geological features as well as offering a simplified overview of the geological events that lead to the landscape we see today.

Oregon's basin range lands are the northwestern most extent of America's Great Basin. The geology and topography of this region is the result of fragmentation of the continental crust in Southern Oregon as a result of Western Oregon being pulled away from the eastern half of the state. The fragmentation causes the earth's crust to break into massive blocks which may lift into isolated ranges such as Hart Mountain, plunge leaving deep flat valleys such as the Alvord Desert, or tilt (because they sunk unevenly) creating soaring cliffs on one side and a gradually descending slope on the other.

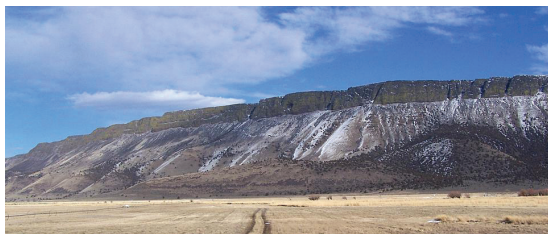
Inland Seas

Before the rise of the Cascade Range, which now blocks Pacific air masses, precipitation was much more prevalent in this region, meaning greater erosion rates creating canyons such as those cutting deeply across the west face of Hart Mountain. The eventual rise of the Cascades and a warming planet meant the end of glacial snowpacks in the Oregon High Desert and brought about massive accumulations of meltwater in the desert basins. Inland seas accumulated in low laying basins, in many cases reaching depths great enough to overflow into drainage systems that reached the sea. Malheur Lake overflowed into the Malheur River, Fort Rock Lake into the Deschutes, and even in this present era Goose Lake sometimes reaches depths great enough to drain into the Pit River in Northern California.

Abert Rim

Visualize a 2500 foot basalt-capped cliff with a 1500 foot drop in elevation over the course of 20 miles. This describes just one part of Lake County's famous geologic feature - Abert Rim. Abert Rim is North America's longest fault escarpment.

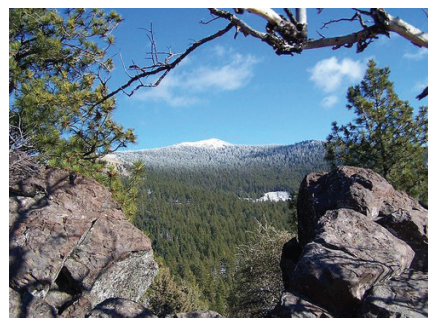
This giant fault block tops out at 7543 feet and stretches non-directly over 40 miles from the Sherman Valley near Drake Peak far north to the Christmas Valley - Wagontire Cutoff Road.



Hager Mountain

Hager Mountain is one of the gems of the Silver Lake Ranger District. The fire lookout, at 7200 feet, is occupied during the wild-fire season to keep watch over the surrounding flat lands for any sign of smoke. During the winter, it becomes a rarely attempted peak that offers one of the best snowshoeing climbs available in Southern Oregon. The four mile strenuous hike up the West side leads to a panoramic view of the landscape from Mt. Shasta to Mt. Hood.

In summer and fall hikers and trail riders will find the trail from road 28 to the peak quite stunning as well as challenging with the last half mile out in the open and traversed with switchbacks. Farm Wells, which can be reached off of road 28 has very nice camping facilities including solid, well constructed horse corrals. There is no drinking water at this site and campers with horses may find it difficult to coax their mounts down the banks of the holding ponds to drink.



[43.02333, -121.04389](#) [43°1'24"N, 121°2'38"W](#)

Picture Rock Pass - Divide or Intersection?

In northwest Lake County a low tilted-fault-block ridge divides the Summer Lake basin (a remnant of Lake Chewaucan) from the Fort Rock/Silver Lake basin. Even during the high stands of the late glacial maximum, about 18,000 years ago, the pluvial lakes were never joined.

This dynamic geologic and hydrologic intersection became an important cultural intersection. To the south the Paisley Five-Mile caves and to the north the Fort Rock region, both studied by Luther Cressman in the 1930s, are now known to have been occupied by early peoples over 12,000 years ago.

Petroglyphs in this region are diverse and distinctive, ranging from archaic (early Anthropocene) to later Anthropocene (the last 3000 years.) The ridge divide is now called Picture Rock Pass. There are many varieties of petroglyphs on sub-ridges and low basalt rims and boulders within a mile of the Highway 31 road cut and within six miles, along the south edge of Silver Lake, to the north; and south of the divide along the northern periphery of the Summer Lake basin near Ana Springs, now a reservoir.

From Rock Art Oregon - Blog: To Become Visible



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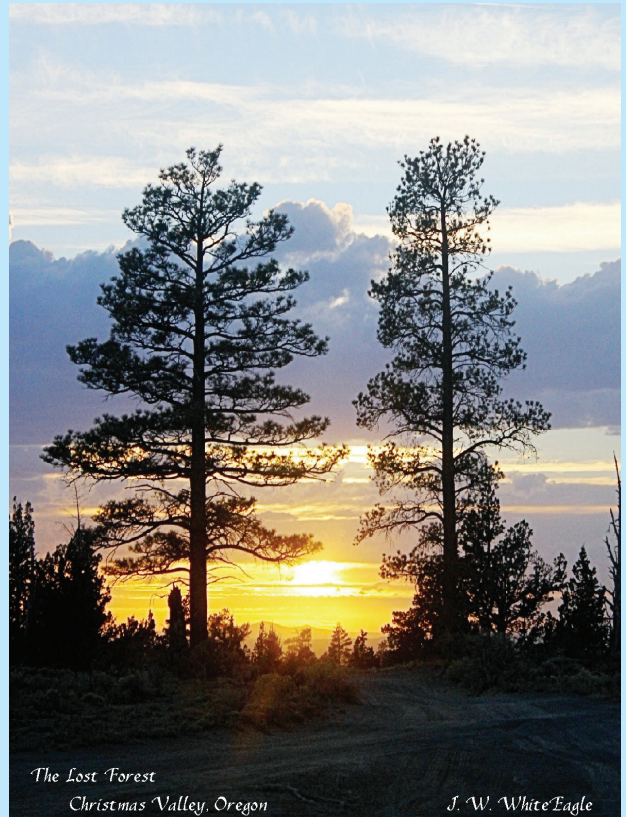
The Lost Forest

Remote Fascinating Beautiful

One of the places the desert sand has been blown for many thousands of years is the Lost Forest, a protected relic stand of genetically distinct trees. The ancient dune system in which the Ponderosa pines grow acts as a natural mulch, trapping moisture near their roots.

Off road travel in the Lost Forest is strictly prohibited because it destroys the undergrowth that the tree seedlings need to become established in their otherwise harsh environment.

Pictured right is just one of many unforgettable sunrises you will experience in the vast high desert. The photo at left is one of the oldest junipers in Oregon.



*The Lost Forest
Christmas Valley, Oregon*

J. W. White Eagle

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Cell: 541-480-9752

Tim Puckett

GOLDEN RULE FARMS
P.O. Box 255
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Office: 541-576-2273

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P.O. Box 255
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Office: 541-576-2273

GOLDEN RULE FARMS
P.O. Box 255
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Office: 541-576-2273

Tim Puckett Cell: 541-480-9752 Tim Puckett Cell: 541-480-9752 Tim Puckett Cell: 541-480-9752

Willows and Willows-West: Shopping for all Reasons

What happens when you have a love of the new, the old and the unexpected and decide that your busy life really needs to get even busier?

Well, if you're Laura Parks you purchase a building and immediately fill it with antique pieces, large and small, collectables from near and far, an array of kitchen goodies, original art work and one-of-a-kind wall decor and you call it *The Willows*.

Will it work? You bet. In fact the business outgrew its space in 18 months. That is when Parks added on, nearly tripling the space which of course needed to be filled with countless gift items, gourmet foods and unique



jewelry and gift items to fit every shopper's needs.

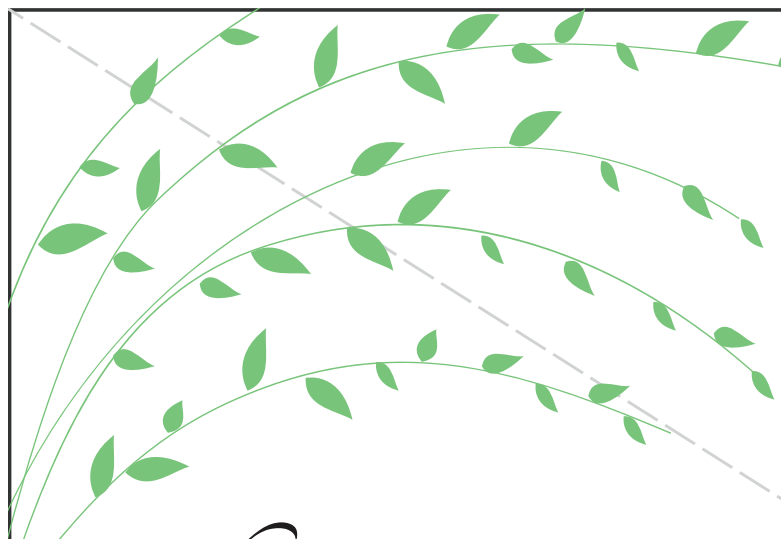
When another property became available, Parks, and her daughter Allison Rudolf decided to open a second shop. The duo added a yarn store and a full-service,

licensed floral shop and called it Willows-West.

The West houses not only flowers and yarn, but an array of kitchen items from infused vinegars, rubs and spices, to table decor and many antique pieces of related furnishings.

Larger pieces of antique and one of a kind furnishings along with complementary items find their home in The Willows.

There truly is something for everyone, an oasis, if you will, in the desert. Willows and Willows West attract shoppers from near and far!

Willows-West

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Antiques & Vintage & Gifts

Laura Parks

owner

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See Inside Front Cover

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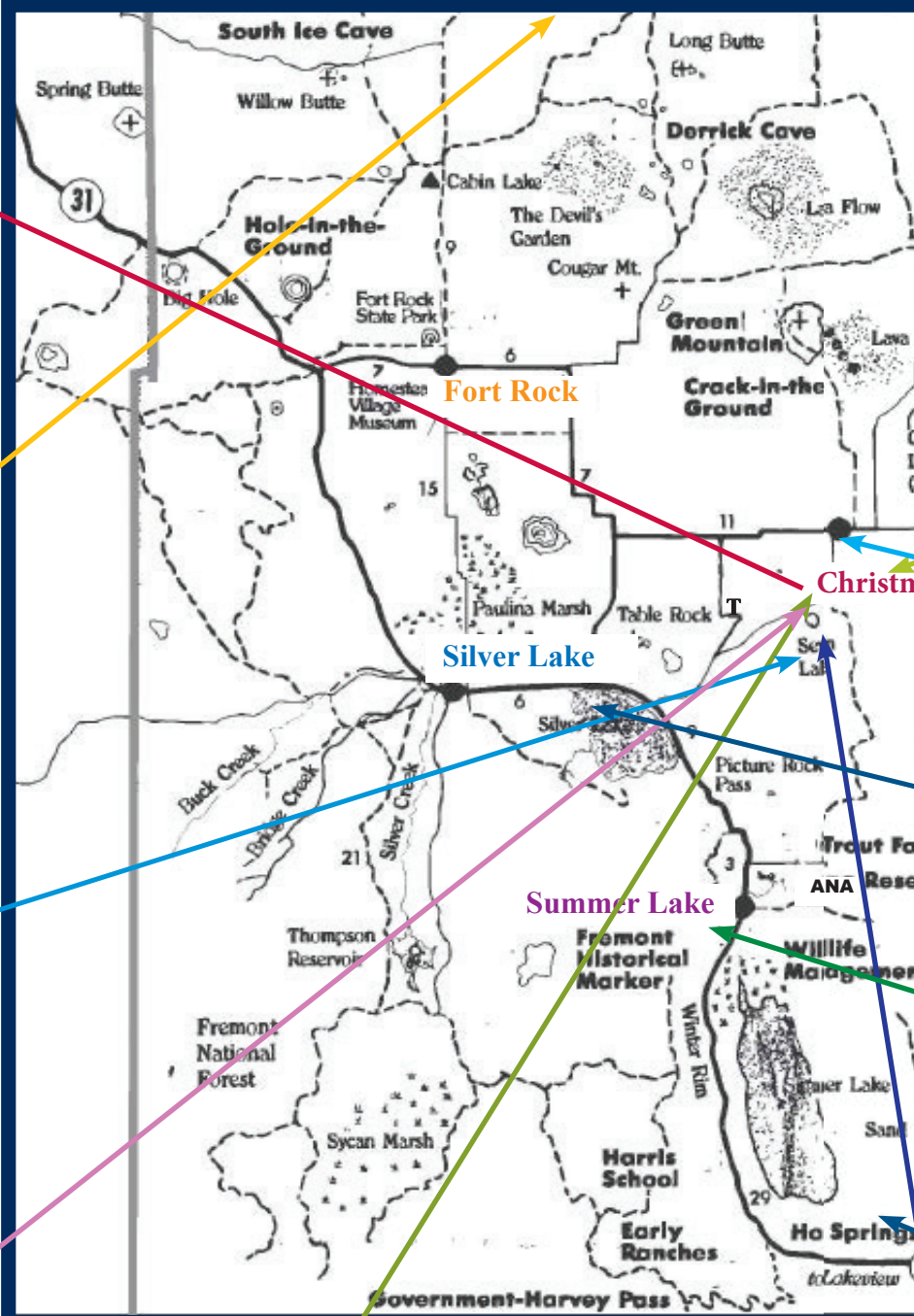
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See Page 30



See Page 26

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 541-576-2117

10 am to 5 pm - Tues thru Sat
both stores

The Willows
 Antiques & Vintage & Gifts

Laura Parks
 owner

87531 Christmas Valley Hwy | Christmas Valley, OR 97641 | 541-576-2199

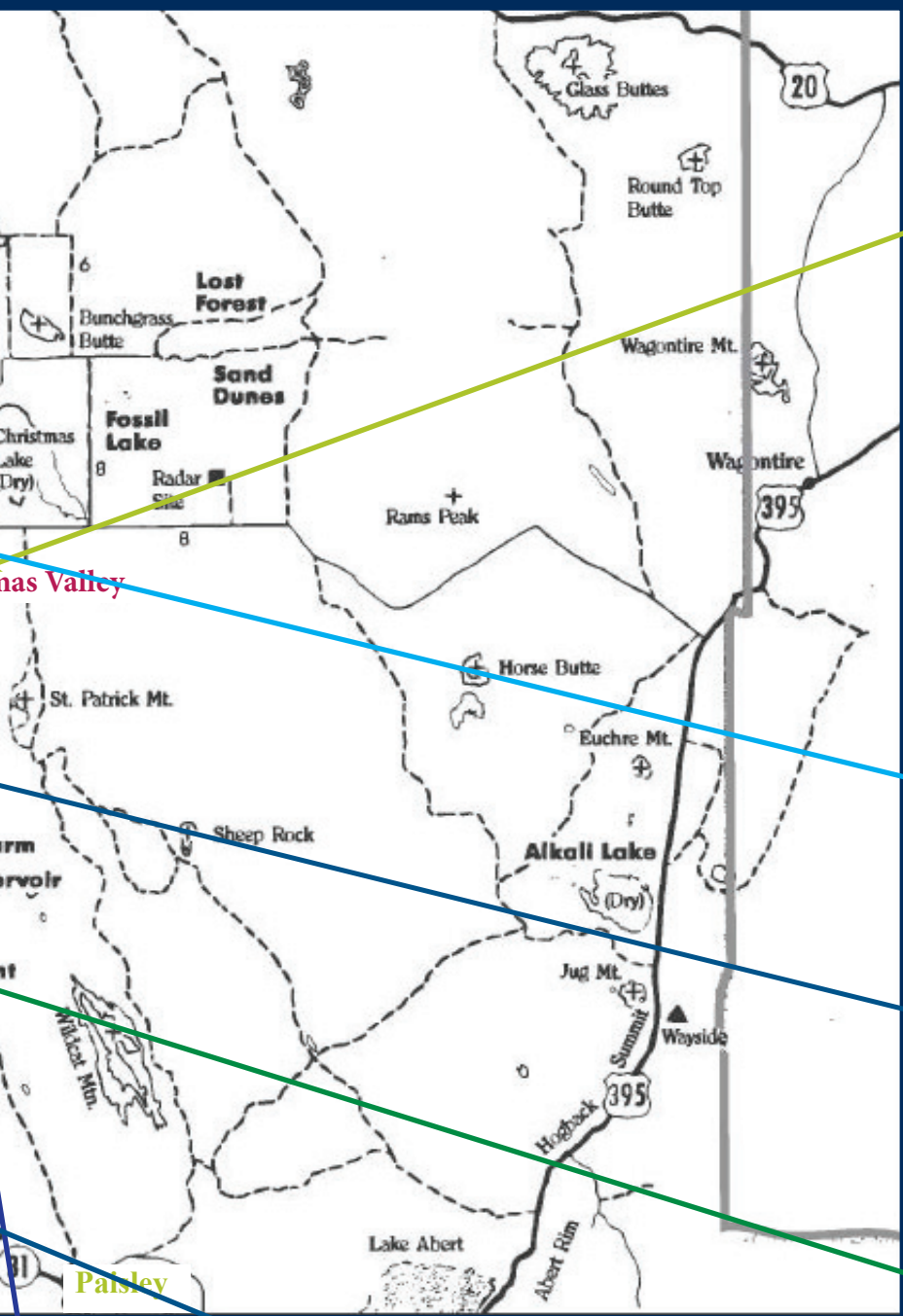
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 see Page 38
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 See back cover

See Page 48

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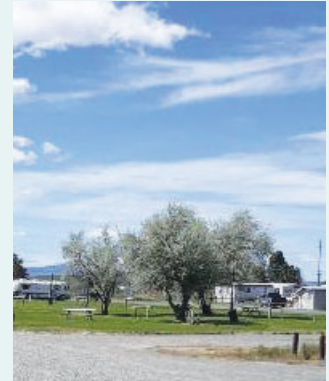
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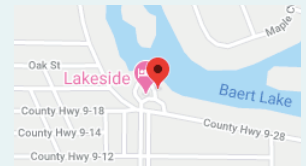


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Christmas Valley Golf Course: High Desert Golfing at Its Best

Golfers are in for a rare treat when in Christmas Valley, as this small remote town in Eastern Oregon is home to the challenging Christmas Valley Golf Course. Built back in 1964, this 9-hole, high desert, links style golf course is surprisingly long at 3,321 yards from the back tees; in addition, the extremely narrow fairways, small greens, and hard blowing winds combine to make this a tough test for any level golfer.

Rated by the Oregon Golf Association for all tees for both men and women golfers. The course is located in the middle of the town next to the old Christmas Valley Lodge, the library, and Baert Lake. When golfers show up, they'll find a modest sized practice green, a driving range practice field (around 300 yards), and a lot of geese in between. They'll also see a kiosk near the Parks and Rec building (by the library)

**Condensed Article
By Robbie Newport**

where they can find scorecards, pencils, and a sign in sheet with instructions on how to pay.

With no tee times and, generally, no wait times, golfers will begin to appreciate the one of a kind attributes Christmas Valley Golf Course offers when it comes to tranquility and peacefulness.

At only a few hundred dollars a year for a membership, \$20 for 9-holes, and \$25 for 18-holes, affordable golf rates is another unique attribute the Christmas Valley Golf Course offers.

Both serious and not so serious golfers alike should experience playing the Christmas Valley Golf Course at least once in their lifetime, if not regularly. If

they play the ball as it lies, this high desert gem will rival any challenge they've faced before. As for the peaceful surroundings and laid back atmosphere, they'll find this pure golfing experience second to none.

Happy Golfing



Photo by Robbie Newport

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EVERY MEMBER
HAS A GREAT **STORY**

Watch **NATHAN'S STORY** at
myPCFCU.org/stories



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Pacific Crest: Where your story matters

Every member of Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union has a great story to tell. We recently asked a few members to share their stories. Several videos were produced, featuring hometown folks telling local stories. Fourth generation farmer and Christmas Valley resident Nathan Church tells his story of juggling farming and providing high speed Internet to the community at myPCFCU.org/stories

Church says, "High-

speed internet out here is probably a good portion of why the community was able to start booming and different companies are willing to invest money here... they know that they can expand. We can function as a city, really." Pacific Crest is excited to see the growth and increased access in the area.

"At Pacific Crest, you can expect hometown service with access to global benefits," says Chad Olney, CEO at Pacific Crest Federal

Credit Union. Those global benefits include surcharge free access to 30,000+ ATM's nationwide, 24/7 Online and Mobile Banking, Business & Ag Loans, Home Loans and even a high yield Rewards Checking program. As not-for-profit cooperatives, credit unions have no stockholders to pay. Instead, they re-invest their earnings in their communities, providing direct financial benefits to their members.

When asked about



Chad Olney, President/CEO

his story Olney replied, "hopefully, it's that I manage to rise up to the level of the many amazing people of this region who show up every day, roll up their shirt sleeves and work hard to make the lives of friends, family, and neighbors just a little bit better"

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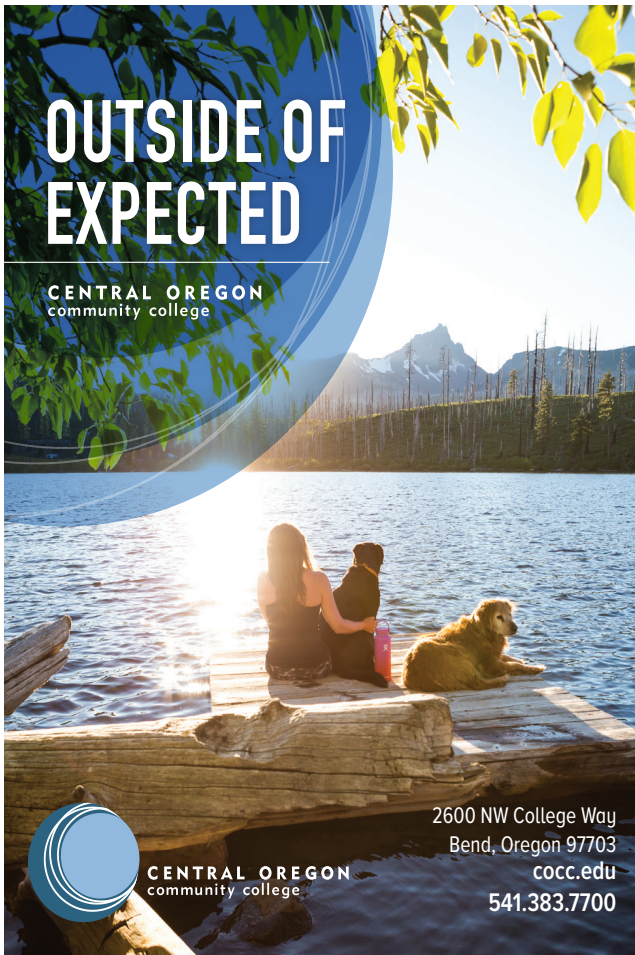
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Of Central Oregon Community College former student Todd Munroe wrote, "One of the best community colleges in the State!" Between the excellent professors, wide-range of degree and class options, and the incredible events by student clubs and organizing, you won't regret your time @ COCC.

The COCC District encompasses all of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties, as well as the southern part of Wasco (precinct 10) and northern portions of Klamath (precinct 1) and Lake (precincts 13 and 14) Counties.

COCC's mission is to be a leader in regionally and globally responsive adult, lifelong, postsecondary education for Central Oregon

North Lake School

Ongoing upgrades
at North Lake School
See page 39.



Mission Statement: North Lake School District remains committed and dedicated to an educational foundation providing the tools, motivation, and discipline to encourage the development of students, staff, and community and to provide a personal, consistent, and caring education that will prepare all students to become well-rounded individuals and to realize their maximum potential.

About North Lake: We have a dedicated staff that serves children in a one building K-12 setting. Award winning programs such as Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) continue to perform and be recognized as top programs regionally and statewide. We offer a comprehensive selection of classes and supplement those choices with on-line course opportunities.

North Lake operates on a four-day school week with students attending from 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. We offer football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, wrestling, baseball and track and our student athletes compete well every year for district and state honors.

We are the second largest geographic athletic district in the state of Oregon and the resulting travel and time commitments demand that students balance their athletic interests with their academic responsibilities. The results are a consistently high graduation rate, acceptance at community colleges and universities statewide and positive citizenship in our halls.

North Lake School is a great place to be and perhaps the best kept secret in Central Oregon!

Christmas Valley/North Lake Chamber of Commerce

The Christmas Valley/North Lake Chamber of Commerce serves the businesses and the communities of the northern end of Lake County, Oregon. Why, because Lake County is so large that one chamber simply can't provide for the north and south ends - they are 100 miles apart.

We are a small organization. The board members are volunteers, and we have no paid staff but as with many chambers in rural areas we get things done.

Every year the chamber produces this guide, manages the July 4th parade including the purchase of the awards, hosts the annual Christmas lighting contest, places American flags along the highway through town in celebration of major federal holidays, maintains a 24 hour, accessible Tourist Information center that is located at a front corner of J.W. Kerns parking lot. The Chamber also hosts an annual Awards banquet at which individuals and businesses are recognized.

Continuing our Pocket Garden rest stop devel-

opment and improvement has created a cool relaxing space for travelers and locals to take some time to relax, snack, and read.



Thanks especially to J.W. Kerns for housing the building. And for helping us keep the pocket garden watered and blooming.



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Dedication



Patty Effingham



Richard Morehouse



Tim Russell



Clark Simmons



Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union



Sheriff Michael Taylor

No Banquet this year, but the Awards continued for 2019 because there is no shortage of amazing, dedicated community members deserving recognition for all they do - usually under the radar. We celebrate them and thank them!

Patty Effingham received the

2019 Chamber's Choice; Richard Morehouse, pictured with daughter Debbie, was Voted 2019 Lifetime Volunteer; Tim Russell received the Volunteer of the Year award; Pacific Crest Federal Credit Union was Business of the Year. Our Educator of the Year, was Clark Simmons and

our Emergency Responder of the Year, is our Lake County Sheriff, Michael Taylor who was presented his award by deputy Tom Roark.

Congratulations and a huge "Thank You" to all these terrifically dedicated people for all you do for our community!

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www.newlifefellowshipcv.com

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Bon Puckett

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North Lake School: What's Happening with Bond Measure Improvements

With my retirement and departure from North Lake now in effect, I would like to give reader's a final update on issues facing our community and school.

While our campus is closed until further notice due to construction and the Covid-19 guidelines – significant things are still happening at North Lake!

The Annex building is being re-built from the floor up. When completed it will house our Alternative Education and Primary programs. We have added a "community" room for 4H and other community uses. When school resumes this fall 3rd grade will probably start in that room until the main classroom additions are completed around January with the major construction addition. Griffin Construction believes the Annex will be completed and ready to re-occupy near August 1.

The Bus Maintenance facility construction is in the beginning phase. When completed all of our transportation needs will be conducted from this building; bus parking, administration and routine

maintenance. We anticipate this building being completion in January, 2021.

The main construction consists of a new 3rd grade classroom, special education classrooms and an elementary gym. Underground utilities and foundation work has been completed and walls are expected to start going up any day. This phase of construction involved tying into the current building and existing systems and some re-purposing of identified internal spaces. Our current 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade rooms were impacted by this tie-in. All rooms (except the current 3rd grade room) are expected to be ready in early August.

Our 30 year old carpet has been torn out and the entire facility will be re-carpeted in July. Our entire school is getting a face-lift. All construction is expected to be completed in January/February. Some retrofit projects may be completed in the summer of 2021. Most of our classroom furniture and materials are stored in the gym.

David C. Kerr
Superintendent/Principal



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Silver Lake Oregon



Silver Lake is an unincorporated community on Route 31 in Lake County's north end. The town is sparsely populated yet quite lively and boasts many services and recreational opportunities.

There is a mercantile, filling station and convenience store with a full service deli, a cafe & bar and a few miles from town - The Cowboy Dinner Tree. Travelers will also find a six unit motel, two RV parks a laundromat and a US Post Office.

Wildlife is abundant throughout the area and it is not unusual to see mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, coyotes, badgers, and a multitude of raptors. The area has multiple

camp grounds, fishing opportunities and numerous trails to hike or ride.

The area is home to several large cattle operations so don't be

surprised to find yourself driving through a herd of cattle on its way to a new grazing site -- after all you are visiting Oregon's Outback!

Silver Lake Mercantile

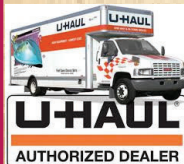
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Sue, David & Lawana

Liquor ~ Wine ~ Beer

Fishing Oregon's Outback

Condensed from an article by Dave Banks of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

North Lake County is full of excellent fishing opportunities. Whether you are a novice, or an expert fisherman, you can find many challenging and rewarding fishing experiences nearby.



Many small streams flow from the East slope of Yamsay Mountain: **Silver Creek, Buck Creek, Long Creek, Coyote Creek and Bridge Creek**, and they all provide good fishing for pan sized Redband and Brook trout. There is an 8-inch minimum length and two-trout per day limit on the Redbands. There is no size or catch restriction for the Brook trout.

The above creeks are open to artificial lures and fly-fishing year round, but access is severely limited during the winter due to snow and ice. The best time to fish these creeks is in the late

spring when high flows from winter run-off start to recede and the water clears.

Duncan Reservoir, located south of Hwy. 31 and about five miles east of the town of Silver Lake, is a 33 acre reservoir stocked with fingerling (3-4") and trophy (> 12") Rainbow trout. A boat ramp is available for launching boats up to 18 feet, but smaller boats are advisable.

Pontoon boats or float tubes are an excellent way to fish this body of water and bank angling is very productive. The reservoir has a maximum depth of 15 feet.

Duncan's elevation is 4,832 feet. There are four single campsites on the west side and a group site below the dam. Duncan is fantastic for taking out small boats, canoes, and is very peaceful and quiet. Ice fishing is also possible when the weather is cold enough.



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Fremont National Recreation Trail #160, starts at the top of the 8,196' Yamsay Mountain and ends at Government Harvey Pass. You will need to go online to map this trail.

On the summit of Yamsay Mountain, the views are spectacular. It is best to start your adventure from **Antler Horse Camp** out of Silver Lake from which you can ride west to Yamsay or east to Silver Creek Marsh and beyond.

Antler Horse Camp is lovely but quite rocky with only a few corrals. There is a water hydrant for your horse's water needs but be sure to bring water for yourself. The trail from

Antler to Yamsay is frequently blocked with blow-downs but the trail leading west to Silver Creek Marsh Horse Camp is usually open. The entire section may not be open (especially early on).

Silver Creek Marsh. In a forest setting, this facility has 17 tent and trailer sites, picnic tables and fire grates. Drinking water is available for both humans and horses. The horse corrals are plentiful, spacious and secure.

Ride west toward Antler or head east toward Farm Well and beyond. Some sections of this trail can be hard to identify. You will come to a FS road where the trail crosses and continues

upward then branches to **Farm Well** or to a final up and down to the top of Hager Mt.

Farm Well Horse Camp and campground has numerous campsites suitable for trucks with trailers as well as motor homes. The corrals are solid and well maintained. The trail that heads east toward Fremont Point is extremely rocky and there are not a lot of markers. The trail section heading west has stretches that become overgrown easily so it's important to make some mental notes along the way.

It is a good idea to bring plenty of drinking water and water for the horses if possible.

Thompson Valley Reservoir

FISH - CAMP - EXPLORE

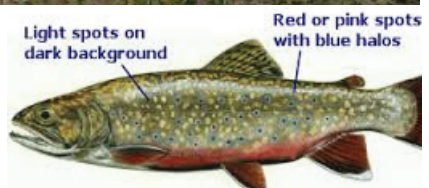
Thompson Valley Reservoir is one of Lake county's most popular fishing destinations. This large reservoir provides ample opportunity for boat and bank anglers alike. The average size of Rainbow trout is 14 inches and trout in excess of 18 inches are often landed. Thompson is stocked during May and June. The reservoir is also home to Large Mouth Bass. There is no size or number limit on the bass fishery.

There are two forest service campgrounds found along the shore with 18 camp sites having a hand pump for water, picnic tables, metal fire-rings with BBQ grills and outhouses. Also of note is that several spur roads leading down to the reservoir have great unimproved campsites.

There is one boat ramp at Thompson but there is no moorage.



Brook Trout



The current Oregon sport-fishing regulations can be found at: www.eregulations.com/oregon/fishing/ Anglers are urged to consult these regulations for up-to-date seasons and limit restrictions

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- **Camping**
 - 4 Primitive Sites
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 - Excellent Opportunities

Year round access to most areas by vehicle, foot or other means. Full services nearby in the community of Summer Lake, and only 75 miles from Lakeview and 100 miles from Bend on Highway 31.

"Cooperative funding and management of this Wildlife Area is made possible through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Aid Wildlife Restoration Program."

For additional information, contact:

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Summer Lake Wildlife Area
53447 Hwy. 31, Summer Lake, OR 97640
Phone: (541) 943-3152; Fax: (541) 943-3204
email: martin.j.stlouis@state.or.us

SUMMER LAKE WILDLIFE AREA

Established in 1961, the Summer Lake Wildlife Area was created with the primary objectives of protecting and enhancing natural habitat and providing public hunting opportunities. The area is approximately 18,700 acres in size and is dominated by a large reed system that provides an important resource for breeding and migrating waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. Also present are a variety of upland habitats, from grass-covered fields to native sagebrush and grasswood brushlands. A limited area of agricultural land (primarily grain) also is present. South of the wildlife area is the lake, shallow and very alkaline Summer Lake.

March through May is the best time for viewing migrating flocks of waterfowl, waterfowl and songbirds. Many species also breed on the wildlife area. September through January offers a variety of public hunting opportunities. Archery and bow hunt events are held during waterfowl hunting seasons from October through late January to provide refuge areas. Hunting is not recommended during nesting seasons. Bird banding and tagging activities at the observation station.

Legend:
 - Area Boundary
 - Private Lands
 - Parking Area
 - Camping Area
 - River/Canal
 - Lake/Pond/Stream
 - Cities
 - Closed to Hunting
 - Access Roads (subject to seasonal closure)
 - Observation Station
 - Access to Summer Lake

Summer Lake



Photo by Debbie Warren

Summer Lake: A Mecca for Lovers of the Great Outdoors

One of the largest lakes in Oregon at over 20 miles long, Summer Lake is home to great historical ranches and properties as well as wildlife, hot springs, stunning landscapes and a few creature-comforts too.

As you drop into the basin in the morning, geothermal vents send plumes of steam high into cool air - offering some spectacular visuals. The Summer Lake Basin is a landscape abundant with desert and forest flora and fauna. The area is also rich in geological and archaeological sites and has a long homesteading history. Summer Lake is truly a land of diversity as well as beauty.

The landscape you saw one year may be much different the next. This large shallow alkali lake may be wet one season and dry the next, never-the-less, it is the area's major feature. It separates the wide-open sagebrush step of eastern Oregon and the rocky, forested mountains of the Fremont-Winema National Forest.

The area is a mecca for lovers of the great outdoors offering a wide variety of hiking, biking and riding opportunities as well as access to the Summer Lake Wildlife Area where visitors can enjoy over 300

species of fish and wildlife (primarily birds) as they explore nearly 18,000 acres of wetland and habitat. So bring your binoculars, hiking boots, and camera.

Travelers and visitors have a nice range of lodging choices, from primitive tent camping to cozy cabins overlooking the lovely bass pond at The Lodge at Summer Lake.

South along Hwy 31, is the Summer Lake Hot Springs. Stop just for a fabulous soak or stay the night - they have several levels of accommodations.

Summer Lake is home to the Summer Lake Store where visitors and locals can grab a forgotten item, fill up on gasoline or diesel, purchase propane, and even post a letter.

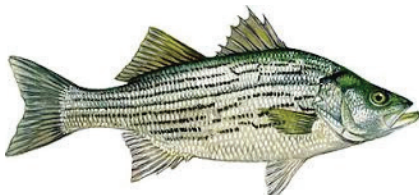
A favorite side-trip is the drive through the Summer Lake Wildlife Area on an 8.3 mile tour route. The road is well maintained but is closed during hunting seasons (early October through late January) to provide refuge for waterfowl.

The best time to visit for viewing migrating flocks of waterfowl, including plumaged ducks, geese and swans is March - April. April to May is a good time for viewing migrant waterbirds and songbirds.

Fishing ANA Reservoir

Ana Reservoir is a 62 acre reservoir located near the town of Summer Lake. The water temperature remains around 60 F year round due to warm geothermal springs. The reservoir is stocked with fingerling rainbow trout.

Hybrid bass, or 'wipers' are available in the reservoir as well and can grow to in excess of 20 pounds. Many anglers target Hybrid bass in late winter and early spring, although they can be caught throughout the year.



Hybrid Bass

These bass are a schooling fish and work as a group to capture prey. Casting or trolling *crankbaits* (fish-looking lures that dive) or vertical jigging lures are both effective methods for catching the Hybrids.

Anglers are reminded that they may keep only one Hybrid bass (at least 16" in length) in a 24 hour period.



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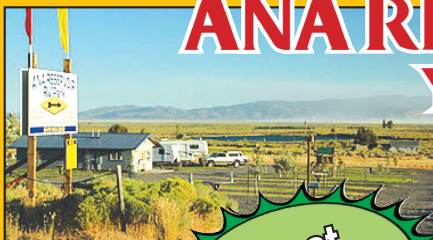
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The Lodge at Summer Lake: An Oasis of Natural Beauty and Serenity

Located off Hwy 31 between Silver Lake and Paisley, visitors and residents of Lake County will find the Lodge at Summer Lake in the midst of the area's most amazing natural beauty. Specifically, they'll find a small resort with 4 cabins, 7 hotel rooms, a restaurant, an event room, a gift shop, and a private pond stocked with trophy bass, right across from the 18,941 acre Summer Lake Wildlife Area.

With the Winter Ridge as the backdrop and the Summer Lake Wildlife Area in the forefront, visitors will enjoy the picturesque settings as they contemplate the day's adventure. This may include traveling through the wildlife refuge in their vehicles to view over 280 species of birds, fishing or swimming at Ana Reservoir and River, fishing in the private pond right outside the cabins, hunting birds and deer in season, hiking, horseback riding, and more.

While fishing and bird watching/hunting are some of the main attractions to this unique area, the serenity, great food, and comfortable environment are universally appealing for all visitors.

The Flyway Restaurant compliments the fine views and quality accommodations with homemade and fresh menu items for both casual and fine dining experiences. The top quality chefs and staff will de-

light patrons with hand-cut steaks, Angus burgers, batter dipped chicken tenders, fresh dinner bread and biscuits, clam chowder, delicious desserts made from scratch, and much more from their extensive menu. The quality food, large portions, and friendly service all come at an affordable price as well.

While the Lodge is surrounded by large, beautiful deciduous trees and bushes, the flat desert landscape dominating the area gives visitors a great chance to see many miles in the distance. This is especially beautiful as the sun rises and sets on the horizon, creating magnificent colors to gaze upon with awe. It also gives bird watchers a chance to use their binoculars to see unique birds such as Sandhill Cranes, Ibises, Egrets, White Pelicans, and Tundra Swans among many other fascinating birds and animals native to the area.

The Lodge at Summer Lake is an oasis of serenity and natural beauty; it gives both visitors and residents alike a great place to stay and eat while they enjoy this unique area tucked away in Southeastern Oregon. With the Summer Lake Hot Springs and PLAYA also nearby, visitors have even more compelling reasons to make their way to this special destination throughout the year.

Summer Lake Hot Springs

A Healing Retreat



Welcome to Summer Lake Hot Springs

In an area known as the Oregon Outback

One of the most unique, picturesque landscapes in the Pacific Northwest, Lake County, Oregon, is among the few truly unspoiled places on earth. Part of the Great Basin region of the United States, Lake County is home to numerous large alkali lakes. At the south end of one of these, Summer Lake, lies ancient artesian hot mineral springs.

The Hot Springs is open for two day reservations and Day Use is not available

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duane@summerlakehotsprings.com

Add Summer Lake Hot Springs to Your Travel Plans

It is no surprise that since Duane Graham purchased Summer Lake Hot Springs in 1996 the 145 acre property has seen many additions and improvements. Graham had been visiting the springs since 1988 and had always found healing properties not only in the springs but in the serenity of place - of the land.

Having refurbished vintage houses in Portland and Eugene, Graham incorporates his love of history and vintage in his designs. Massive timbers from long gone local mills, recycled materials and natural pigments all combine in the construction of a variety of welcoming, comfortable houses and cabins.,,

Graham's designs are environmentally green and thermally heated with a rustic, artistic, eclectic feel.

There are outdoor pools in which visitors can soak as they enjoy the incredible vistas that Summer Lake offers.

Even more amazing is sinking into the healing waters of an outdoor pool, late at night and taking in the brilliance of a night sky unadulterated by ambient light.

The facility offers sites for tent camping, and for recreational vehicles, campers and trailers.

At the 2017 Chamber Awards Banquet, Graham was honored as the Business of the Year in recognition of how he has, over the years, implemented his philosophy of balance and creativity into the development of a wonderful hot spring destination that is enjoyed by patrons from throughout the north west.

Summer Lake Hot Springs, as with many businesses has made changes in their business plan due to the COVID-19.

Day Use is no longer available and all visitors must have reservations for a minimum of two days. Additionally the main pool has been drained and there are no plans for its reopening in 2020.

Fishing the ANA River

Did you know that the Ana river is the shortest spring-fed river in Oregon? This little river is a fantastic spot to escape to in the both winter and summer. For such a little river, Ana can produce large trout in excess of 20 inches and a good number of smaller fish.

Flies, lures and bait are all productive.

The river flows out of Ana Reservoir and then through Summer Lake Wildlife Area where it empties into Summer Lake.

Most stocked trout fishing occurs in the stretch of the river between the Reservoir and River Ranch Campground which is located on the wildlife area.



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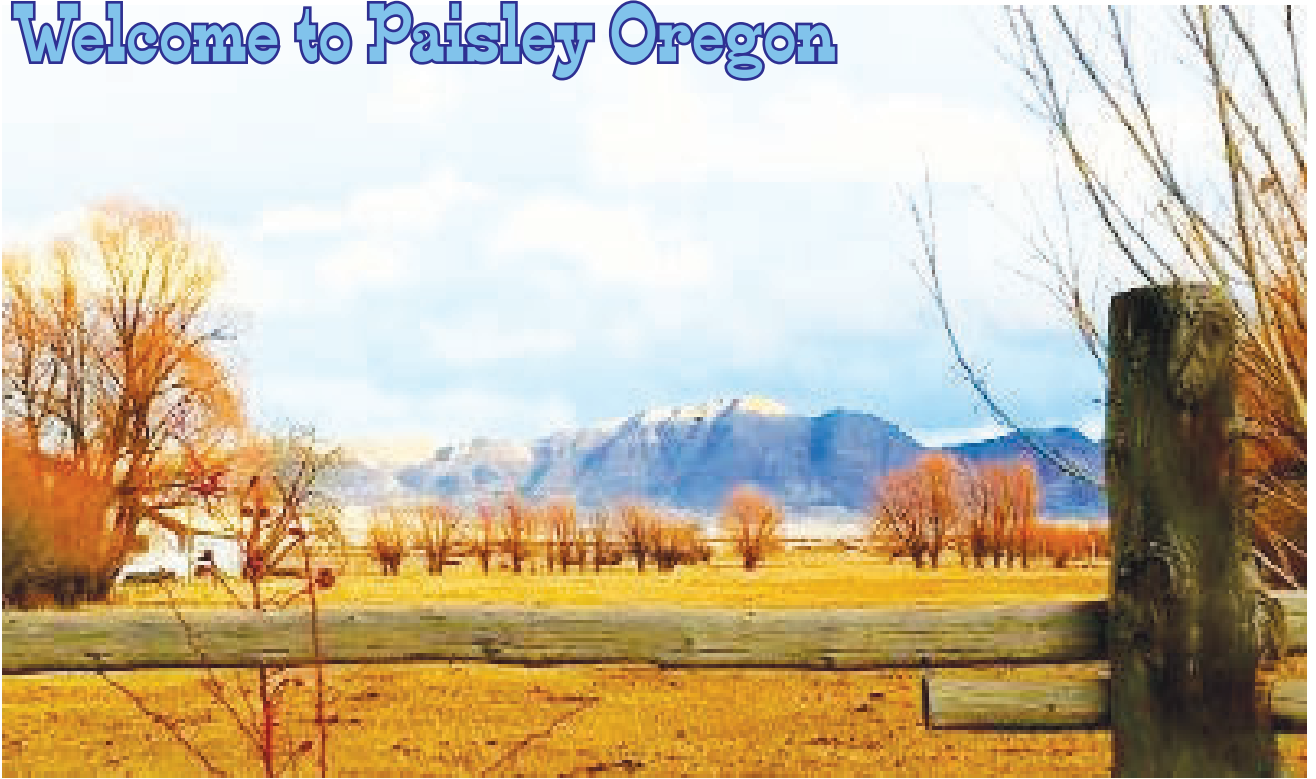
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Welcome to Paisley Oregon



Paisley: A Glimpse Into the Past

Driving into the small town of Paisley is like stepping into the past. The hamlet of 250 people hasn't changed a lot since it was established in 1878. The Chewaucan River flows through town into an expansive valley where cattle graze on the ZX Ranch, one of the largest in the country. Paisley is the gateway to outdoor recreation, with camping spots along the river, and inviting pools for fishermen to try their luck hooking the native red band trout. Numerous hiking trails wind into the surrounding hills. Maps and brochures of the back country are available at the Paisley Ranger Station.

In November, a fire burned the Homestead Restaurant, built by John and Ellen Withers in 1983 to replace the original hotel and café built by T.J. Brattain in 1878. Visitors to Paisley can still get a meal at the Pioneer Saloon, established in 1883. In that era, Paisley had a reputation as a rowdy place when thirsty cowboys often got in fist fight; once there were five fights in one afternoon. The Pioneer retains the old west ambiance with its ornately carved bar that was shipped from Boston in 1905, sailed around the Horn and brought

to town by a six-horse freight wagon. A photo gallery of cowboys and ranch life line the walls. House smoked meats are a specialty and the menu includes burgers, sandwiches, salads and pizza.

Next door, the Paisley Mercantile stocks a variety of grocery, hardware and outdoor recreation items. Since the loss of the Homestead Restaurant, the Mercantile has expanded to include a lunch counter and coffee bar. Espresso lovers can satisfy their craving at the Paisley Perk, a coffee kiosk on the corner.

The Sage Rooms, a modern motel, rents four units with Western décor. Three units have two queen size beds and one unit has a king size bed. Each room has a private bath, microwave and mini-fridge. To reserve a room, call 541-943-3145.

Mechanics at the Chewaucan Garage repair vehicles and pump gas. Fuel can also be obtained at the Pacific Pride card-lock pumps.

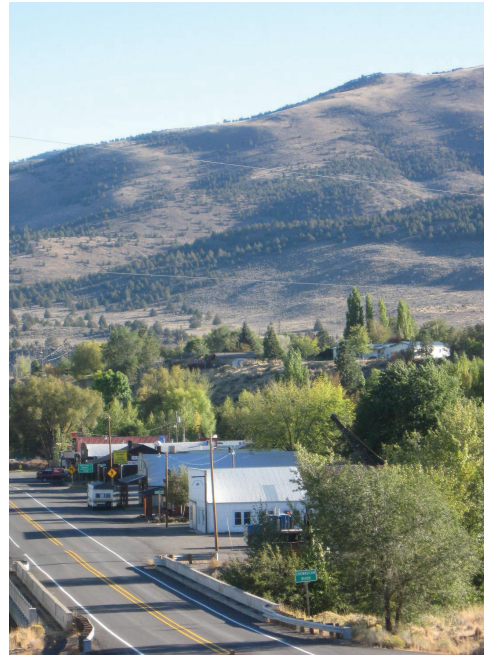
At Paisley Charter School, about 70 students attend classes from kindergarten through grade 12. Foreign exchange students reside in a dormitory supervised by house parents. *See Glimpse, Pg.53*

A Glimpse Into the Past

These students from many countries add diversity to the high school student body. The Broncos athletic teams include cross country, track, volleyball and basketball.

In many ways, Paisley is like a big extended family, with volunteers staffing the city fire department and transporting people with medical needs to the Lake District Hospital, 45 miles south. A Community Center was constructed in the 1980s with donated material and labor. The Center houses city hall and a large communal room with kitchen. People gather here for memorial services, parties and community potlucks. The Volunteers in Paisley host annual Fiesta Dinner, Halloween Party and Holiday Fair. The Inner Court Family Center occupies a donated modular office building. The non-profit center organizes public transportation, sponsors Food Share and the school lunch program and provides office space for a Veterans Services Officer, a physical therapist and physician's assistant who come each week from Lakeview.

In August 2018, the town of Paisley was threatened by the Watson Creek Fire which consumed 58,330 acres to the west. An Incident Command Team set up camp in the Murphy's pasture, with 1,068 fire fighting personnel and three helicopters based at the Paisley airport. Thanks to their efforts, the town was spared and the spirit of the old west lives on.



The Chewaucan River: A great place to fly fish

The Chewaucan River is formed by the confluence of Elder Creek and Dairy Creeks in the Gearhart Mountains. Small streams that flow together in an almost flat meadow, then through a forest and a canyon and into more high desert meadows in its lower section.

The River flows through a combination of Fremont-Winema National Forest, Bureau of Land Management public property and private property. The majority of access is through public lands.

Fish population consists of Red Band Rainbow trout and Brown trout.



Foot Bridge across the Chewaucan River

The river's Red Band Rainbows average about eight to ten inches but grow as large as 16 inches and sometime even larger.

This river has become a good quality trout stream since stocking ceased in 1996 along with many improvements that have improved trout habitat.

Marstars Springs Campground is on the stream not far from

Paisley. There are back-country sites all along the river on public property.

Above the Coffee Pot Creek confluence the river flows through private ranch land.

The best section to fish is the twelve mile canyon stretch from Coffee Pot Campground to Paisley.

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Photo Courtesy Tammy Lesueur

Crater to Crater on the Newberry Country Trail... Lakes, Desert and National Parks

Originally starting as a three-hour car tour around the Newberry Crater, the trail has morphed into a **three-loop tour** of the region: the High Lakes, the High Desert (Oregon Outback) and the Crater Lake area to the south of the Newberry National Monument in La Pine, Oregon- the trailhead for the Newberry Country Trail.

Starting in La Pine you can take the **first loop** – **The High Lakes Loop**- into the mountains to the Central Oregon Lake Region. (West of the Newberry Crater). Take Hwy 97 to the Cascade Lakes Hwy and Hwy 58. You will visit Sunriver Resort, 30 famous fishing lakes, Crescent Lake Junction and Odell Lake, back to Crescent-a Railway town and Gilchrist a logging town on Hwy 97. You can camp, hike, bike, fish and enjoy recreation summer and winter. Mount Bachelor Skiing is on loop one.

The **second loop** is **The Crater Lake Loop** that

goes south from Chiloquin on Hwy 97 (home of Train Mountain) past Fort Klamath to Crater Lake National Park on Hwy 62, then over to Union Creek, Shady Cove and back north to the Crown Jewel of the Cascades- Diamond Lake on Hwy 138, returning to Hwy 97. There are some world famous fishing spots, camping and activities galore!

The Desert sunsets, geology and history are featured in **loop three- The High Desert Oregon Outback Loop!** You will turn southeast off Hwy 97 to Hwy 31 and head to Fort Rock, the State Park and Heritage Village Museum in the first little farm community. From there drive to Christmas Valley- a farming and ranching community and home to many sights such as Crack-in-the-Ground and the Black Hills, back to Silver Lake, home of the Cowboy Dinner Tree and on to Summer Lake and Paisley on Hwy 31.

Have fun!

Largest Volcano in the Cascade Range: *The Newberry Volcano*

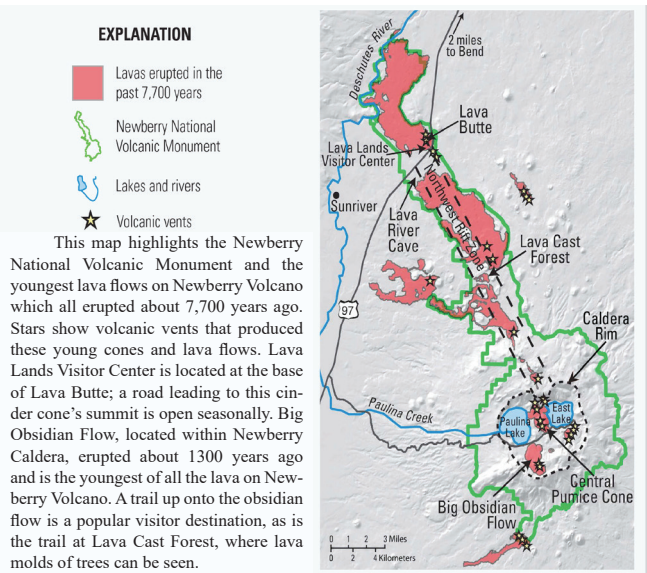


Newberry Volcano

Newberry Volcano is the largest volcano in the Cascades volcanic arc as can be seen in the photo above. Just its central caldera encompasses a four by five mile depression that was formed about 75,000 years ago. The caldera's two lakes, Paulina and East are fed in part by active hot springs heated by magma deep beneath the caldera. The lakes are separated by a large pumice cone.

Big Obsidian Flow, 1,300 years old is the youngest flow on the volcano.

The volcano's highest point, Paulina Peak (7,984 feet) can be reached by car and offers amazing views in every direction.



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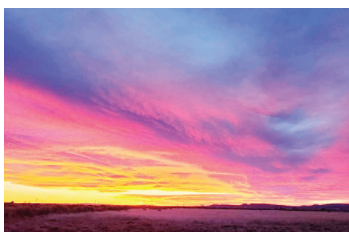


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