



Stunning slopes

Adventures for skiers at Crater Lake this spring

See page C1

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Sun and clouds
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Newsmakers

A biweekly look at people behind issues in the Klamath Basin

Amanda Squibb: Arts Education Coordinator

Children's theater brings out best in local youth

BY STEVEN SILTON
H&N Staff Photographer

Kids in the Basin are learning to act, dance and sing through the Ross Ragland's youth outreach programs coordinated by Amanda Squibb.

Squibb moved to Klamath from Chicago about a year and a half ago and soon met with Mark McCrary about creating a new position to introduce youth to theater and the performing arts. After touring with her husband for the Missoula Children's Theatre (based in Missoula, Mont.), she started teaching in Chicago and wanted to continue that route here.

The after-school classes she teaches at the Ross Ragland started small, but quickly gained attendance. Now the Ragland offers fall, winter and spring sessions for a variety of different classes and age groups in addition to summer camps.

The outreach programs have expanded into local elementary schools, too. Now second-, third- and fourth-grade students in seven schools from Chiloquin to Malin get an eight-week course in vocal, dance or drama disciplines.

The in-school program started in October, but it's still in the pilot phase to figure out what works best for the students and schools. Squibb said some teachers notice an effect on the child's confidence and school work.

"The confidence they gain through the arts translates to almost every aspect of school and life," she said.

While touring with the Missoula Children's Theatre, Squibb said there was one child in particular she'll never forget.

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H&N photos by Steven Silton

Erin Norlie teaches kids the final song during rehearsal for the Missoula Children's Theatre production of "Blackbeard the Pirate." The program came to Klamath Falls through the work of Arts Education Coordinator Amanda Squibb.

Deputy's shooter linked to new case

Chaney named person of interest in Eugene killing

GRANTS PASS (AP) — A suspect in the killing of a deputy in California after a carjacking in Oregon and an attack at a tourist attraction has been linked to the case of a man who was killed before his body was found by officials responding to a fire, authorities said Thursday.

Ricardo Antonio Chaney, 32, was called a person of interest because he knew the family of 79-year-old victim George Bundy Wasson, Eugene police spokeswoman Melinda McLaughlin said.

She said Chaney, who was later shot and killed by a police officer in California, was not considered a suspect in the death of Wasson in Oregon. McLaughlin would not divulge any details of the slaying.

See KILLING, page A3

Gov. Kitzhaber seeks shakeup for Cover Oregon

Changes in leadership may fix problems found in probe

SALEM (AP) — Oregon's Gov. John Kitzhaber asked for a shakeup of Cover Oregon's top leadership Thursday after an independent investigation found that state managers had repeatedly failed to heed reports about problems that prevented the online health insurance exchange from launching on time.

The Democratic governor said at a news conference that he has directed the Cover Oregon Board to find a new chief operating officer and chief information officer.

It will be up to the board when COO Triz delaRosa and CIO Aaron Karjala would be replaced, the governor's office said.

Kitzhaber also said Bruce Goldberg has resigned as director of the Oregon Health Authority, the agency which was originally in charge of designing and building the health exchange website.

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Weekender

Best bets for this weekend with Doug Higgs



It's a pageant with a twist — boys competing instead of girls.

The 10th Annual Mr. Pelican Pageant with Klamath Union High School boys participating will be at 7 p.m. today in the Ross Ragland Theater.

Tickets are \$15. Children 4 years old and

younger admitted free.

■ Missoula Children's Theatre production of "Blackbeard the Pirate" with a cast consisting mostly of local school-aged children will be presented at 3 and 5:30 p.m. Saturday in the Ross Ragland Theater.

Tickets for each perfor-

mance are \$10.

■ Three more performances of "If the Shoe Fits," an adaptation of the Cinderella fairy tale, will be performed by the Linkville Players at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Linkville Playhouse.

Tickets are \$11 to \$14.

DAILY BRIEFING

Oregon bans munchies at medical pot shops

Hash brownies, space cakes and other pot-laced munchies won't be allowed at Oregon dispensaries, state officials said, and that's drawn criticism from pot-shop advocates. See page A4.

Firefighter stairclimb raises \$2,000 locally

Four Klamath County Fire District No. 1 firefighters trekked up 69 flights of stairs recently in the annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb to raise money for cancer research. See page A3.

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Raymond Lakey, 63
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