

WARD: Man is studying for nursing career if hand allows

Continued from page 1

Ward is pursuing a career in nursing, hoping that the condition of his hand will allow it. And he's involved in a national effort to make sure that what happened to him stops happening to others.

Technology exists to detect the proximity of flesh to a saw blade and instantly stop a table saw. Consumer advocates have for years been engaged in an effort to require such technology as an industry standard — and they've enlisted Ward in their cause.

The Sisters man traveled to Washington, D.C. last month at the behest of Sally Greenberg of the National Consumers League. While there, Ward testified before the Consumer Products Safety Commission, the body that would ultimately recommend a new industry standard. He also spoke directly to individual commissioners, the CPSC chairman and to senior staff of three of Oregon's congressional delegation.

The matter has been before the commission for several years, but it hasn't been on the front burner.

"The big thing is their

funding and staffing," Ward said.

The CPSC is dealing with all sorts of consumer safety issues, from ATVs to kids strangling on window blind cords to kids eating laundry pods. The frustrating thing for Ward and other advocates is that, while many issues are complex, the table-saw fix isn't. Simply requiring that flesh-detecting technology be installed on every saw sold takes care of the problem.

"There is one fix," Ward said. "It's easy. It's not as complicated as these other issues."

But years of inaction have meant thousands of preventable injuries. Ward says there have been some 40,000 emergency-room visits in the past five years and there are as many as 10 amputations a day due to saw accidents.

But changing an industry standard is a political process and, Ward says, "you definitely learn politics and how big of a mess it is."

Ward acknowledges that the private sector is acting to adopt safety technology — but not quickly or thoroughly enough. Consumer advocates argue that if the free market is the only actor, only high-end saws will be fitted with flesh-detecting technology, and the weekend hobbyist isn't likely to buy a top-of-the-line saw.

They want a universal



PHOTO PROVIDED

Joshua Ward, left, with CPSC chairman Eliot Kaye and consumer advocate Sally Greenberg in Washington, D.C.

safety standard for ALL table saws. And Ward says the technology is readily adaptable and could cut down accidents with other types of saws as well.

Ward testified before the CPSC on June 24, and his testimony was compelling. He was not just reciting numbers — he could tell his own story: that of a young man whose life was significantly altered in a moment by an accident that can now be prevented.

He told *The Nugget* that he was assured that his testimony made an impact. And talking to congressional staffers will have an impact as well. Representatives for Greg Walden, Jeff Merkely

and Ron Wyden all agreed to write letters to put pressure on the CPSC to act.

While Ward is continuing his nursing studies and working for the summer at Black Butte Ranch, he sees more advocacy in his future. And he believes that his personal cause will eventually succeed.

He cites automobile safety as an example. Eventually, life-saving technology was adopted, despite extra expense.

"You don't find a car made anymore without airbags," he said.

Someday, he believes, and hopefully soon, safety devices will prevent the kind of injury that changed his life.

CAR SHOW: Hot Rod show fills Main Avenue with classics

Continued from page 3

1989 and is \$30 per vehicle. Space is limited for the show; register as soon as possible to ensure a spot.

"I know this is going to be a lot of fun," said Jeri Buckmann, events director for the Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. "It has been exciting to plan, and we feel fortunate that this event brings beautifully restored and maintained classic cars and trucks lining Main Avenue. The street is closed to traffic so viewers can easily browse the vintage car display in Sisters. People enjoy classic cars. It was an era that can't be forgotten."

Additional sponsors include over 20 local businesses.

For more information on the Sisters Glory Daze Car Show or to register contact Buckmann at jeri@sisterscountry.com or 541-549-0251.

Rural & Residential Property Sales



Protecting your investment is my number-one priority! It does make a difference who you hire to represent you.

Patty Cordoni, Broker

541-383-7600 office 541-771-0931 mobile
patty.cordoni@sothebysrealty.com

Cascade

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

541-593-4277
431 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters
Each office is independently owned and operated.

Welcome Quilters!
Sew on to Success!

Western Title & Escrow

Stop by and visit with Tiana Van Landuyt & Shelley Marsh.
220 S. Pine St., Ste. 102 | 541-548-9180

Specializing in Central Oregon Rural Properties

Kathy Hansbrough
Broker, CDPE, GRI, SRE
Cell: 541-408-2998
Office: 541-728-0033

kjhansbrough@remax.net
www.kathyhansbrough.com

RE/MAX Key Properties
431 NW Franklin Ave. Bend, OR 97701
Licensed Broker in the State of Oregon

Please Connect Your Ray's All Access Rewards Program Account to Furry Friends Foundation

It's FREE and we get 1% back on your purchases. It's an easy and great way to donate!



Shop locally, donate locally! Thank you for your support.

With your Access Rewards account information in hand (the number on the back of your card), call, email or visit Ray's to connect to Furry Friends Foundation.

- Call 541-412-0005
- Email AllAccess@ckmarket.com
- Visit the Ray's Customer Service Counter and ask to connect your account number to Furry Friends Foundation for the All Access Community Rewards Program.

FURRY FRIENDS FOUNDATION

501(c)(3)

www.FurryFriendsFoundation.org

Sisters Pet Food Bank • Spay/Neuter Sponsorships • Emergency Medical Assistance