

TOUGH JOB: Several councilors have stepped down

Continued from page 1

through large amounts of background material in a short time-frame.

When the workload is heavy and criticism turns personal, it makes people question why they would want to volunteer for a turn in the barrel.

“It can get nasty,” Frye said. “That’s why a lot of people quit; because it gets personal... I’ve heard a lot of people who have served in the past say they don’t miss it.”

He says he’s heard many people say, “I want to serve this community, but I’d prefer not to have that kind of abuse and that kind of workload.”

Yet the work is critical — and can be rewarding.

Getting constructive work done and making the City a better place than when you started can make the job a rewarding and positive experience, Frye says.

Councilor David Asson, who is now the senior councilor and one of two remaining councilors who were actually elected to the post, plans to stick around.

He acknowledges that there are strains on volunteers. Sometimes, local politics can get rough.

He noted, for example, that the last council meeting

— a hearing on McKenzie Meadows Village senior-living facility — ran three hours and featured some pretty vitriolic rhetoric from rival senior-housing developer Mark Adolph’s attorney Michael Repucci.

And, he says, “There’s certainly irritation from the so-called activists... If you’re a sensitive person and like to work in calm surroundings, it’s uncomfortable.”

He said inexperience in leadership roles both among volunteers and staff can “compound problems” and allow issues to spin up.

However, he thinks the atmosphere is improving and he does not think any of the recent issues reflect bad internal relations.

“None of those are symptomatic of poor council relations, I don’t think,” he said.

Asson thinks training of new councilors and commissioners would be helpful, as would “more efficient planning and preparation for meetings.”

He sees some definite positives, noting that “our outreach to the community has greatly improved.”

Asson also thinks that newly appointed Councilor Amy Burgstahler has the temperament to “show people that this is a fun thing to do.”

What makes being a councilor or commission member “fun”?

“What makes it fun and

rewarding is when we accomplish things,” said Mayor Frye.

Things like improving downtown and making the economic development manager position full-time. Things like providing community grants. And, tough slog though it can be, getting projects underway and completed.

And, the mayor believes, people are starting to understand that their neighbors and fellow citizens are volunteering for a tough job.

“What makes it fun and rewarding is when we accomplish things.”
— Mayor Chris Frye

“I think people are seeing a little bit now what it takes to be a councilor, what it takes to serve in that capacity,” he said.

Overall, he says, “I think things have gotten a lot better.” And he is looking into ways of helping the community shift the tone.

“There might be avenues to improve the discourse, to add some civility back into it,” he said.

In the meantime, the council will have to appoint another member to replace Wendy Holzman, who resigned last month, and get back to work on behalf of the citizens of Sisters.

WHYCHUS: Area closure will lift in late September

Continued from page 7

Riehle and Perle emphasized the importance of last spring’s removal of the PMR dam. PMR agreed to the removal and received assistance in establishing a new diversion point, along with more efficient irrigation systems that take less water from the creek.

“That’s kind of what unlocked the process,” Perle said.



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

A new bridge will span the creek at the Brooks Scanlon Road.

and shallower, with water closer to the surface.

“We’re already seeing things green up and the plants respond,” Perle noted.

The replacement of the bridge will also enhance creek health. There won’t be any center piers on the new bridge, so it won’t pile up debris in heavy flows and become a pinch-point on the stream. The span will be much broader —

125 feet.

The closure area covers some very popular spots for forest recreation, and folks have had to be patient with being excluded from some favorite spots all summer. But the closure will end within weeks, and when people return to hiking the area and playing in the creek, it will be a healthier, more beautiful Whychus Creek than ever.

“We’re already seeing things green up and the plants respond.”
— Mathias Perle

There will be planting of riparian vegetation, but Mother Nature has already jumped into action as channels become more numerous

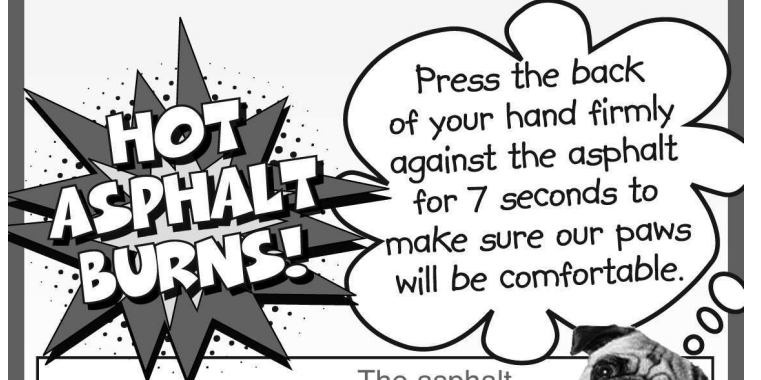
PROTECT YOUR PETS FROM EXTREME HEAT!



Estimated Vehicle Interior Air Temperature v. Elapsed Time

Elapsed Time	Outside Air Temperature (F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
0 minutes	70	75	80	85	90	95
10 minutes	89	94	99	104	109	114
20 minutes	99	104	109	114	119	124
30 minutes	104	109	114	119	124	129
40 minutes	108	113	118	123	128	133
50 minutes	111	116	121	126	131	136
60 minutes	113	118	123	128	133	138
> 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140

Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University



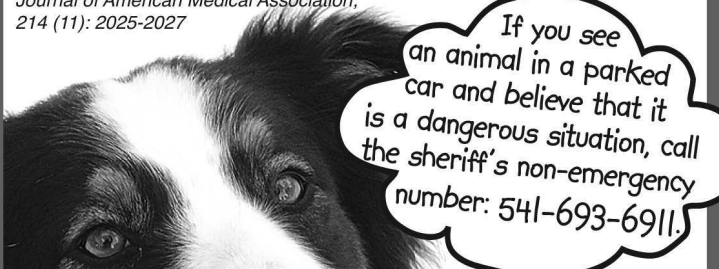
When the air temperature is... The asphalt temperature has been measured at...

- 77° F → 125° F
- 86° F → 135° F
- 87° F → 143° F

These temperature correlations represent worst-scenario variables: direct sun, no wind, very low humidity, and high radiant energy.

At 125° F, skin destruction can occur in 60 seconds. An egg can fry in 5 minutes at 131° F.

Data Source: Berens J. Thermal contact burns from streets and highways. Journal of American Medical Association; 214 (11): 2025-2027



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