

911: Change offers potential for more robust service

Continued from page 3

its existing sites to the State system and in return, by adding the existing State sites to the County system, there would be increased signal density in Deschutes County.

In the interest of public safety, it is logical that 911 services be centralized under one agency to provide a more robust service. Currently, the public dispatchers are required to monitor five different fire service frequencies as well as answering regular 911 calls.

With the current system, there is no money in reserves for maintenance. Financing for the 911 service up to now has been through County voters repeatedly approving levy rates. There is a permanent rate of 16 cents and a temporary rate of 20 cents currently in place. What Reinke proposes is to ask the voters in May 2016 to convert that total 36-cent rate to a permanent levy rate that would be lower (amount to be determined sometime in October), with the advantage of providing a consistent, predictable funding stream. Repeated

levy measures could be eliminated.

With an enhanced service level for the district, two full-time fire dispatchers could be dedicated to fire calls. Establishing a data channel would allow law enforcement to check licenses, warrants, and similar information without tying up dispatchers. A dedicated call-receiver would eliminate the problem of having a 911 caller placed on hold.

If the proposal outlined by Reinke for the formation of a countywide 911 Service District is approved by all parties in the district, there would be a new regional radio system to provide communication for all law enforcement, fire and rescue, emergency medical services, schools, hospitals and other governmental agencies to enhance safety for all residents and agencies within Deschutes County.

The Deschutes County Commissioners have indicated their support and willingness to assist in an effective campaign, with written advocacy, public testimony at public forums, and interaction with the media. Sisters City Council joined in that effort by authorizing Mayor Chris Frye to sign a letter of support.

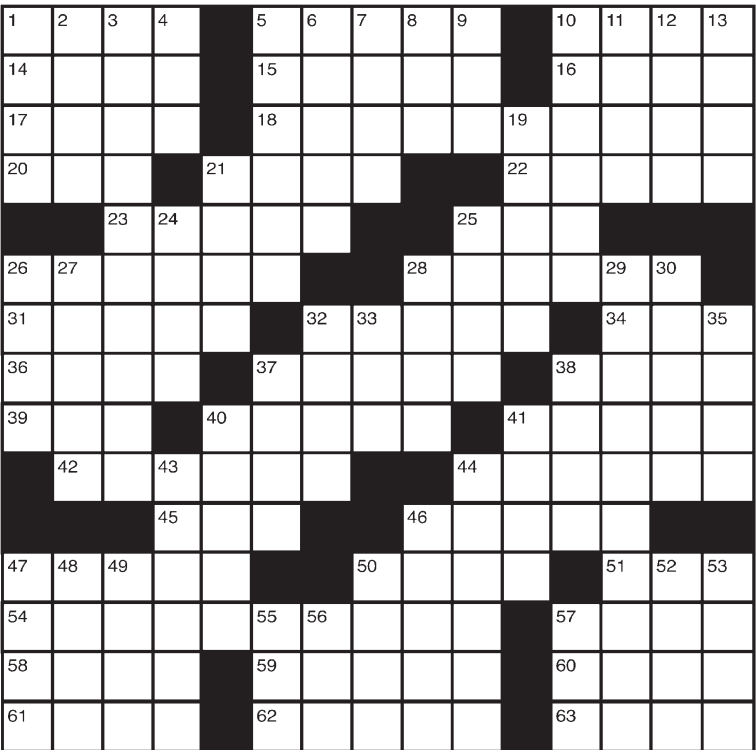
The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wild feline
 - 5 White adhesive
 - 10 Taps gently
 - 14 Bewildered
 - 15 Customary
 - 16 Resound
 - 17 Walkway
 - 18 Onassis, to Caroline
 - 20 Egypt's continent: abbr.
 - 21 Get rid of
 - 22 Say hello to
 - 23 Furry swimmer
 - 25 Brief life sketch
 - 26 Calf-length pants
 - 28 Holler
 - 31 Love, to a Frenchman
 - 32 Sister's daughter
 - 34 Long-tailed rodent
 - 36 Stubborn as a

- 37 Camera maker
- 38 Bread for a gyro
- 39 Fraternity letter
- 40 __ Rouge, La.
- 41 Baked donut-shaped roll
- 42 Manor and its property
- 44 Take a pension
- 45 Rush
- 46 Obama's running mate
- 47 No longer together
- 50 Can covers
- 51 Sit-up targets, for short
- 54 Draw pictures for a book
- 57 Boring
- 58 Journals
- 59 Broader
- 60 Additionally
- 61 Hit flies
- 62 Deep pit
- 63 Small child

- DOWN**
- 1 Daddy
 - 2 Military branch, for short



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 8/19/15

— Last Week's Puzzle Solved —

P	L	U	S	H		B	R	A	D		A	J	A	R
A	O	R	T	A		R	E	N	E		S	O	D	A
I	N	N	E	R		E	A	D	S		S	N	A	G
D	E	S	E	R	T	E	D		I	C	E	A	G	E
			D	I	E	D		B	R	U	S	H	E	S
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E	L	K	S		S	T	U	N		N	E	E	D	S

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- 35 Story
- 37 Actress Winslet
- 38 Cracker spread
- 40 Worms and tiny fishes
- 41 Cots and cribs
- 43 Push with force
- 44 Equestrians
- 46 Morsels
- 47 Has a bug
- 48 Farm vehicle
- 49 Seaweed
- 50 Woman
- 52 Lie in the sun
- 53 Oxford or pump
- 55 Defunct airline
- 56 Tease
- 57 Night flier

Magnificent Milky Way...



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Kris Kristovich captured a stunning shot of the Milky Way from McKenzie Pass.

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