

Local & Entertainment

Stices Gulch

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"I can't get over it," he told the group. "This is my first big event like this, so when I was driving around with Chief John (Baker City's Chief) I asked him if the cooperation was usual with all these agencies, and he said definitely not. He hasn't seen anything like it either, and he has so many years of experience."

Devlin went on to talk about the Fire Management Plan for the area.

He explained that even after they were allowed to return to their homes, they would still be seeing smoke and small fires for quite some time.

"Tree stumps will be smoldering" he said, "and normally they will be fine to just burn out on their own but, if anything concerns you, don't hesitate to call us. If you see anything that you think is a concern, you call."

He went on to explain that due to the fire having denuded the hills of vegetation, there was nothing left to hold the rocks and loose soil.

"Come the rains," Devlin said, "there is danger and the possibility of landslides, flooding, and falling rock."

He went on to tell the residents if they had any large rocks they were worried might come loose and cause damage, to call him and he or his crew would bring the station's heavy equipment out to move it.

Devlin informed the group that he would be having the Type Six truck from the Station driving through the region every night for the next couple of weeks, doing spotting and watching for any potential

outbreaks.

He explained that "ash pockets" left from the fires could continue to smolder, and reach as much as 1,000 degrees, so for residents to be exceptionally cautious when working outside on their properties.

"Wear heavy boots," he said, "and, again call us if there's anything that looks worrying."

Devlin explained that he wanted to reassure the group that he and or his crew would be out to check on anything suspicious, but he wanted to educate the residents so that they knew what to expect.

Lt. Joey Jayo from the Baker County Sheriff's Department is also a resident of the area and he had been working alongside the other firefighters to save the homes.

"Be careful," said Jayo, "and make sure you stay in touch with Emergency Services."

Jayo went on to explain that Dispatch had all the landline phone numbers, but that residents needed to be sure their cell phones were registered too.

Jayo spoke, too, about how so many helped from the entire community. He explained that ODOT would be working on felling the trees that posed danger along the 245 highway, to further reduce the danger.

One of the residents mentioned that he had only recently discovered an old abandoned mine shaft on his property, not 20 feet from his house.

"Sure glad I didn't find it by parking the backhoe over it!" he told the group.

He went on to remind the emergency services workers that there is the possibility of stumbling on abandoned mine shafts all over the area, and that was another danger.

Homeowners were encouraged to add flood

insurance to their existing plans, as the possibility of flash floods and mud damage is greatly increased due to the fires.

Also, fires can cause soil to become very resistant to water, so that the water sheets off rather than soaking into the earth.

Devlin cautioned the residents to wait before felling trees that appeared killed by the fires.

"Call ODF before you cut," he said. "Many trees are actually able to resist any permanent damage and begin to grow again. ODF will send someone out to evaluate your trees, and tell you which will still be viable."

Devlin ended the meeting by encouraging the owners.

"It is 90% sure that we can let you return to your homes tomorrow," he said. "Try not to be overwhelmed by the devastation. Just take it all one step at a time, eventually you'll get it all cleared up."

He explained that the firefighters were focused on clearing a safety zone of 100 feet around each home.

Finally, the Chief closed by reiterating his astonishment at the level of inter-agency cooperation he had seen.

"All of them," he said, "from local volunteers, contract firefighters, ODF, BLM, everybody, went out of their way to be careful, kind and compassionate. They were careful with fences for example. They would use gates when possible rather than just cutting fence. And the cooperative collaboration between everyone involved made the work smoother and safer for all."

Later the following day, Stices Gulch residents were indeed able to return to their homes.

Montana that are being thrown off their place, because they didn't adhere strictly to the law, while they've identified, now, 25 violations of the law by the Forest Service."

After some more discussion and debate, Harvey asked for a decision from

the committee, and the majority voted to leave the Mining section as-is.

At the conclusion of more discussion, including further revising, the NRAC voted to present the plan to the Baker County Board of Commissioners for approval.

Bebe's word search

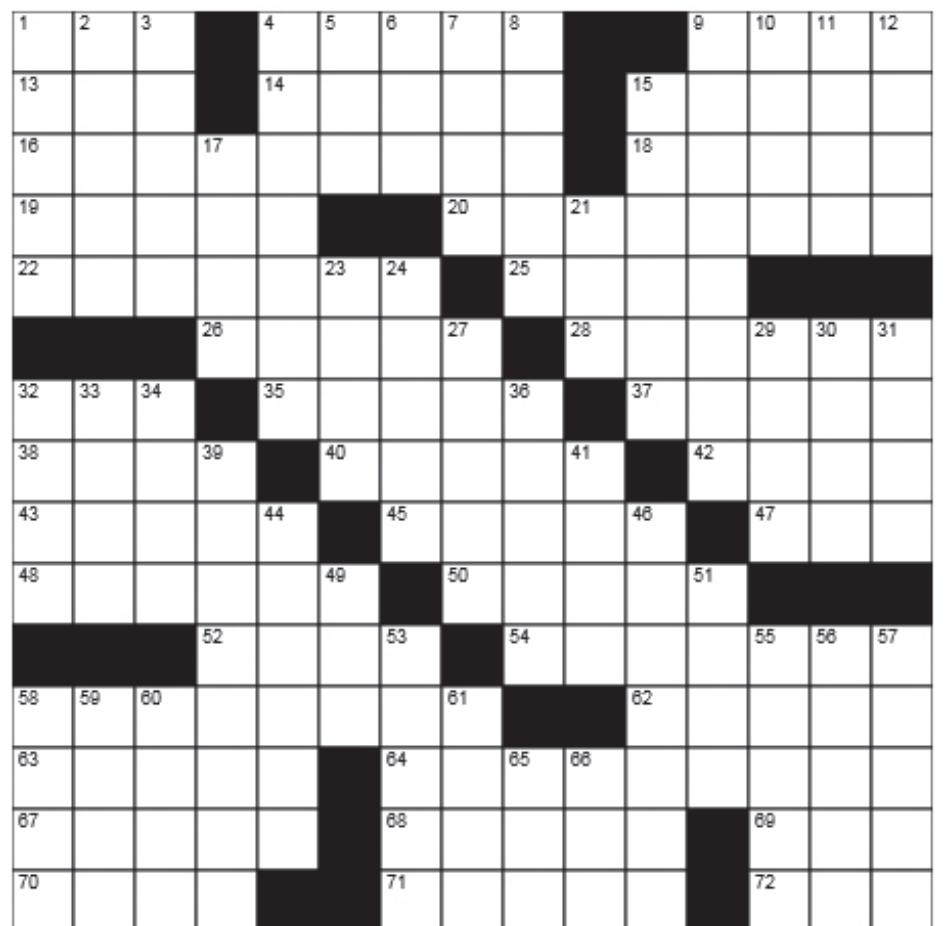
80's Radio Hitmakers

Find and circle all of the 1980's music artists that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a hit song by The Bangles.

W	E	T	S	A	T	S	R	A	C	E	H	T	R	K	L	I	S
B	R	I	R	R	H	O	K	O	N	T	E	L	E	A	I	V	E
L	A	F	A	E	E	C	N	E	X	C	O	L	D	J	Y	O	L
O	S	F	E	N	P	L	N	I	N	E	E	T	R	A	E	J	G
N	U	A	F	G	O	A	D	I	B	O	T	N	O	G	N	N	N
D	R	N	R	I	L	F	R	A	J	A	A	T	W	O	R	O	A
I	E	Y	O	E	I	P	D	Y	V	E	S	T	E	O	U	B	B
E	K	S	F	R	C	T	L	U	C	I	A	I	N	G	O	E	E
C	T	I	S	O	E	L	O	O	R	L	D	S	L	O	J	U	M
H	H	S	R	F	I	W	Y	I	K	A	C	B	M	O	R	A	Y
I	E	E	A	B	N	L	A	T	R	A	N	A	O	Y	H	T	A
C	F	N	E	B	L	E	A	N	N	T	D	D	T	W	T	Q	D
A	I	E	T	I	E	L	L	D	G	N	E	H	U	E	I	U	E
G	X	G	B	N	K	R	A	A	E	C	M	I	P	R	H	E	B
O	X	S	X	N	I	L	L	S	H	I	H	M	U	E	A	E	A
L	L	E	C	T	F	O	S	I	C	N	O	U	A	Q	I	N	R
E	A	N	N	O	D	A	M	S	N	T	A	R	N	G	S	Y	G
P	T	I	S	L	E	T	O	M	E	H	T	V	A	G	A	N	E

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| ASIA | ERASURE | NENA | THE FIXX |
| BANGLES | EURHYTHMICS | NEW ORDER | THE MOTELS |
| BERLIN | FALCO | PRINCE | THE POLICE |
| BILLY JOEL | FOREIGNER | QUEEN | TIFFANY |
| BILLY OCEAN | GENESIS | QUIET RIOT | TOM PETTY |
| BLONDIE | HEART | ROXETTE | TONI BASIL |
| BON JOVI | INXS | SCANDAL | TOTO |
| CHICAGO | JOURNEY | SOFT CELL | VAN HALEN |
| DAVID BOWIE | KAJAGOOGOO | TALK TALK | WANG CHUNG |
| DEBARGE | MADNESS | TEARS FOR FEARS | WHAM! |
| DURAN DURAN | MADONNA | THE CARS | |

This week's crossword puzzle



Across

- Take to court;
- Vulgar;
- Fit;
- Mom-and-pop org.;
- Silk dye;
- Software medium;
- Retire;
- ___-garde;
- Bellowing;
- Wages;
- "West Side Story" tune;
- Young goats;
- Property claims;
- Flexible;
- Neighbor of Leb.;
- In unison;
- Belgian painter James;
- Jalopy;
- Spirited horse;
- Bestow;
- No longer on deck;
- Conger catcher;
- No-win situation;
- Sacred place;
- Actress Taylor;
- Yours, in Tours;
- Decipher;
- Cross;
- Children's refrain;
- Brit's half-note;
- Mishaps;
- Chorus section;
- "___ by any other name...";
- Word in many band names;
- Dresden denial;
- Monetary unit of Turkey;
- Yes;

Down

- Herring type;
- In ___ (unborn);
- Stationery brand;
- State in the SE United States;
- Mythical bird;
- Verb ending?;
- Pro or con;
- Slink;
- Notifying;
- Muffin choice;
- Protracted;
- CPR pros;
- Taper;
- Marsh bird;
- Final letters?;
- Pianist Myra;
- Govt. security;
- Look of disdain;
- ___ were (so to speak);
- ___ Sad, Serbia;
- Genealogist's work;
- Ayatollah's predecessor;

- Himalayan legend;
- Broccoli ___ (leafy vegetable);
- Caught congers;
- By airplane;
- Sand hill by the sea;
- Clan emblems;
- Slopes backward;
- Neither partner;
- Iroquois foe;
- Singer Chris;
- Gossipmonger;
- Succinct;
- We're Off ___ the Wizard;
- Counterfeiter catcher;
- Anger;
- Opposed to;
- Color of raw silk;
- ___ anglais (English horn);
- Terre Haute sch.;



NRAC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Grant pointed out the need for stronger language concerning federal agencies' compliance with the law, and said, "Right now, there are two miners in



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