NORTHWEST

Happy Canyon honors long-time volunteers Bronson and Ward

Bv KATHY ANEY East Oregonian

Happy Canyon shined the spotlight Tuesday night on two treasured volunteers – Bryson Bronson and Gary Ward.

About 40 people gathered at the Pendleton Convention Center for a presentation and short speeches. In all, 73 volunteers have been honored since 1981 when the award was created. This is Happy Canyon's 100th year of existence.

Bryson Bronson is one of Happy Canyon's most wellknown faces.

Clad in a war bonnet and leather leggings, Bronson rides a paint horse named Chinook during the four Happy Canyon Night Shows each year. The iconic visage also guides the horse the length of the Westward Ho! Parade route each September Нарру and represents Canyon by riding in out-oftown parades events. In June, Bronson and Chinook will lead Portland Rose Festival's Grand Floral Parade.

The relationship between Bronson and Chinook started with a ride together in the Kennewick Parade and a subsequent trip to the mountains where they bonded.

"This bonding has led to a dynamic partnership," said emcee Dennis Hunt.

In December, Bronson and Chinook ferried an American flag into the National Finals Rodeo arena in Las Vegas and stood solemnly during the singing of the national anthem.

The entire country got to see what we locals have known for years — there is nothing more spectacular than the American flag being



Bronson

carried by a Native American wearing a war bonnet, astride a beautiful paint horse," said Hunt.

Last spring, Bronson, Chinook and Chinook's owner, Rusty Black, made an 850-mile round trip to Vegas to present the flag at the Federation Equestre Internationale World Cup, a world class dressage and jumping event. For the past seven years at the Happy Canyon arena, Bryson has nudged Chinook up a steep wooden ramp to a platform high above the crowd, where they form a tableau during the singing of the national anthem as they ignore the flash of fireworks and lightshows.

Bryson missed the appreciation event because he was fishing for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. By letter, he thanked the board for the award and also Chinook's owner, Rusty Black, for trusting him with "her spec-tacular horse."

Gary Ward considers himself a newbie as a Happy Canyon volunteer. So his jaw dropped a bit to learn he was receiving a Happy Canyon Appreciation Award for his 13 years serving on



Ward

the grounds crew and maintaining Happy Canyon's fleet of motorized vehicles.

"If you're familiar with the grounds crew, you know that they don't just meet two weeks before Round-Up," Hunt said. "These guys and gals start in April or May and meet nearly every Wednesday night to make sure the Happy Canyon arena and stands are ready for the concert, (Professional Bull Riding) and four nights of the show.

Ward was lauded by various Happy Canyon directors for doing anything that needs to be done from mopping the directors' room floor to fixing a gas tank in which vandals had punched a hole. Ward brushed off the praise.

"Happy Canyon is just great place to volunteer," Ward said. "You made it fun and it will continue to be fun. It doesn't get any better than this.

Additionally, Ward serves as security director with the Round-Up and Happy Canyon Hall of Fame Board.

Contact Kathy Aney at kaney@eastoregonian.com or call 541-966-0810.

Report: Faster response needed to minimize salmon die-offs

By KEITH RIDLER Associated Press

BOISE — Northwest fisheries managers must respond faster to reduce fish kills of sockeye salmon in the Columbia River Basin if warm-water conditions return, a draft report taking a hard look at last summer's massive die-off says.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration report released late last month describes conditions and assesses actions of fisheries managers in a year when 90 percent of the 510,000 sockeye salmon that entered the Columbia died.

Endangered Snake River sockeye perished at an even greater rate, with only about 1 percent of the estimated 4,000 fish returning from the Pacific Ocean surviving the 900-mile journey to central Idaho.

"We need to be faster," NOAA's Ritchie Graves said. "There was too much talking and not enough action and experimentation.'

In 2015 a rare combination of an extended heat wave coincided with low flows in rivers to push water temperatures above 70 degrees, conditions that had not occurred in the basin since at least the 1950s and can be lethal for cold-water sockeye.

"Should similar events occur frequently, the impact on sockeye salmon populations in the Columbia River basin could be substantial," the report says.

The draft report lists

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actions fisheries nine managers could do to recognize earlier when a massive die-off is looming and some actions to potentially reduce the die-off.

Among the recommendations is making changes to get real-time reporting of temperatures in fish ladders at dams to provide an early warning. Graves said he'd be surprised if that change isn't accomplished in the next two years.

The report also said drawing cold water from deep in reservoirs to use in fish ladders could help keep fish moving upstream. That was a problem last year when warm water in some fish ladders caused migrating salmon to stall.

The report says that in 2016 a new, permanent intake structure at Lower Granite Dam will draw water from 60 feet deep and give managers a greater ability to keep water cool. Much of the report

deals with the Snake River where managers have more ability to control water temperature by releasing cold water from Dworshak Dam

"Honestly, there are not a lot of things you can do to manage temperatures in the lower Columbia River," Graves said.

The report notes that last year faulty temperature readings caused managers to reduce cold-water releases from Dworshak Dam just when Snake River sockeve needed it most. The mistake went unnoticed for about a week, and by then managers were moving forward with the capture and transport of Snake River sockeye to a fish hatchery.

But managers say 90 percent of Snake River sockeye died before even reaching the Snake River. "It definitely didn't help, but I don't think it was a significant factor in the loss," said Russ Kiefer of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

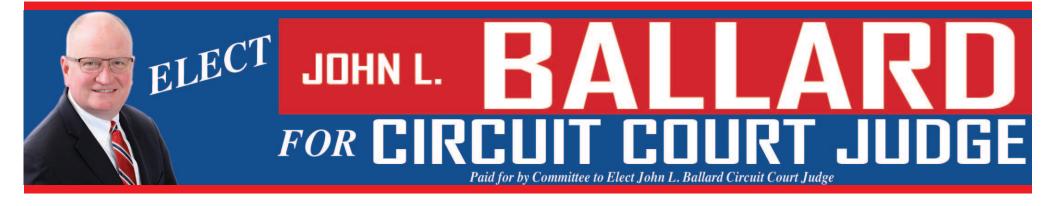
The report notes that one of the quandaries facing managers is the downstream transporting by barge of juvenile Snake River sockeye. In 2015, the report said, transported fish with poorer homing skills spent more time in the river. That proved lethal, and none of the returning adults survived the journey upstream to Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River.

However, barging juvenile fish downstream is intended to boost the number of returning adult Snake River sockeye, endeavor fisheries an managers say they are now having to reconsider.

The 58-page report is being reviewed by federal and state managers as well as tribes, with comments from those entities being incorporated into a final report expected early this summer ahead of this year's sockeye run.

Corrections

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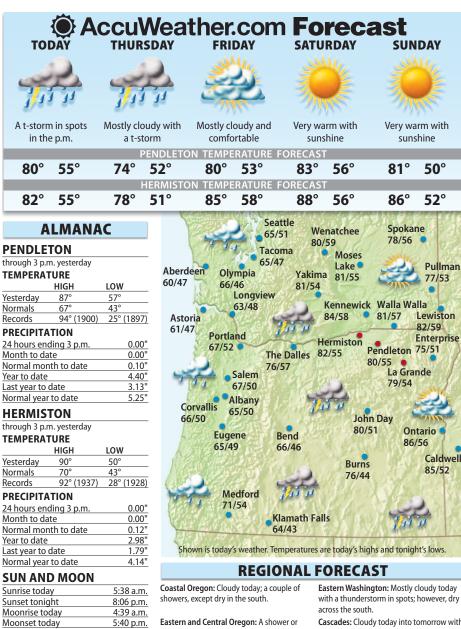
. Ukiah

Spokane

Vancouver

Pasco

North Bend



Eastern and Central Oregon: A shower or thunderstorm in spots today, except dry in the upper Treasure Valley. Western Washington: Cloudy today and tonight with a couple of showers.

Moonset today

First

New

Mav 6

Full

May 13 May 21

Last

May 29



Cascades: Cloudy today into tomorrow with a couple of showers. Friday: warmer across the north.

Northern California: Mainly cloudy today with showers around.

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Astoria	61	47	sh	63	47	F
Baker City	81	50	с	73	47	(
Bend	66	46	t	64	42	1
Brookings	62	51	с	62	51	-
Burns	76	44	t	72	43	(
Enterprise	75	51	с	68	48	1
Eugene	65	49	sh	69	45	1
Heppner	77	50	t	71	49	1
Hermiston	82	55	с	78	51	1
John Day	80	51	с	70	50	1
Klamath Falls	64	43	t	63	44	-
La Grande	79	54	с	71	50	1
Meacham	76	50	с	68	47	1
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70 59

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	Hi Lo W									
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London	63	44	S	67	50	рс				
Mexico City	83	55	t	80	53	t				
Moscow	66	43	рс	56	43	r				
Paris	63	42	рс	68	46	S				
Rome	73	51	t	71	50	S				
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n mph)	Today	Thursday
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endleton	NNE 4-8	WNW 4-8

UV INDEX TODAY 3 4 4 3 1

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+. Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL CITIES

		oday Lo W	Thur.			Today Hi Lo W		Thur. Hi Lo W			
A 11	Hi		Hi	Lo W							
Albuquerque	75	50 s	80	55 pc	Louisville	62	46	-	65	49	
Atlanta	72	50 pc	65	51 pc	Memphis	75		рс	71	50	
Atlantic City	55	49 sh	56	50 r	Miami	86	68		85	65	
Baltimore	61	48 sh	60	49 r	Milwaukee	50	39	-	55	44	pc
Billings	81	54 s	85	55 pc	Minneapolis	63	43		75		рс
Birmingham	73	49 pc	70	48 pc	Nashville	70	46		66		рс
Boise	86	58 c	83	56 pc	New Orleans	78	63	-	79	60	-
Boston	52	45 c	51	48 c	New York City	56	49		59	52	
Charleston, SC	82	57 pc	72	52 t	Oklahoma City	78	48		78	53	
Charleston, WV	63	46 t	59	48 sh	Omaha	69	43	S	75	52	S
Chicago	52	39 c	60	44 pc	Philadelphia	58	49	sh	62	52	r
Cleveland	63	46 t	58	45 sh	Phoenix	100	72	S	95	66	рс
Dallas	81	55 s	80	57 s	Portland, ME	53	41	с	52	42	C
Denver	73	45 s	79	50 pc	Providence	56	45	с	54	47	с
Detroit	59	45 t	66	46 pc	Raleigh	76	52	рс	64	48	t
El Paso	85	60 s	90	63 pc	Rapid City	74	46	s	83	51	s
Fairbanks	58	34 pc	61	41 pc	Reno	73	48	с	65	46	t
Fargo	68	48 s	84	57 s	Sacramento	77	54	с	72	51	t
Honolulu	85	74 pc	85	72 pc	St. Louis	67	46	рс	68	49	s
Houston	80	56 s	81	54 s	Salt Lake City	82	60	pc	83	60	t
Indianapolis	56	41 t	62	43 pc	San Diego	68		pc	68	58	t
Jacksonville	81	56 t	76	51 s	San Francisco	65	55		65	52	t
Kansas City	67	43 s	72	50 s	Seattle	65	51	sh	69	52	pc
Las Vegas	91	68 pc	86	57 pc	Tucson	97	64		94	60	
Little Rock	79	51 s	75	50 s	Washington, DC	63	53		60	52	
Los Angeles	71	56 pc	67	55 t	Wichita	74	44		78		s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

5	NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY
'nu.	Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.
Lo W	
47 pc	Seattle
47 c	65/51 • 68/54
42 t	
51 sh	Billings
43 c	81/54 Minneapolis 61/44 60/44
48 t	63/43 • Detroit New York.
45 pc	59/45
49 t	Chicago C
51 t	52/30 5 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
50 t	San Francisco 73/45
44 sh	65/55 67/43 63/33
50 t	
47 t	Los Angeles
51 c	71/56 El Paso • Atlanta 72/50
47 pc	85/60
50 c	Houston
56 pc	Chihuahua 80/56
55 t	85/54
52 t	Miami
51 pc	Monterrey 86/68
41 c	• 85/55
47 pc	-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s
54 t	
45 t	
47 pc	showers t-storms rain flurries snow ice cold front warm front stationary front high lov
55 t	National Summary: Severe storms will affect the Florida Peninsula as a mosaic of showers
52 c	and storms extends from the Midwest to the Northeast today. Showers and storms will
	expand southward along the Pacific coast.
	expand southward along the facilie coast.

ers and storms will

Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) Low 8° in Hohnholz Ranch, Colo. Calif.

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Pendleton Portland

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ITI	ES	expand southward ale			
/	Thu.	Yesterday's National			
W	Hi Lo W	High 96° in Thermal, C			