

# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

Enterprise, Oregon

www.wallowa.com

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## Cemetery board appoints Davis

After years-long disconnection, memorial ground again has water

By Rob Ruth

Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise resident Perry Davis was appointed Friday to the Enterprise Cemetery District's board of directors, filling a position resigned by Lee Bollman in February.

Board chair Susan Roberts said she and fellow director George Hill concurred Friday on Davis' appointment.

March 19 is the deadline for candidates to file for the district's May 19 election.

Davis' appointment is through June 30, the remainder of the current fiscal year. He has filed as a candidate in the May 19 election, however. If elected, he'll serve the remaining two years of Bollman's unexpired term, through June 2017.

The ballot also includes a second position on the three-member board, that held by Hill, whose term expires this year. Hill has filed for re-election to the four-year post.

Thursday evening, March 12, the board resumed a public meeting it began Feb. 5 to discuss options for restoring irrigation to the cemetery. Like the gathering in February, Thursday's was well-attended, drawing around 60 people.

Ronnie Neil, public works director for the City of Enterprise, informed the March 12



Perry Davis

gathering that city crews had recently completed installation of a new water meter and backflow device at the cemetery. As well, he said, stand pipes with risers and hand pipes "are back in. ... So you have water up there as it is now," Neil said.

In February the cemetery board voted to go ahead with purchase and installation of a backflow device and associated items that would restore water service. Previously, service at the cemetery was unmetered, an issue that came to a head in 2011 when city crews replaced the city's old wooden pipe that fed the property. To tie back into the system, the cemetery would be required to install at least one backflow device along with the meter. Although the cemetery district possessed enough funds to pay for the upgraded tie-in, board members didn't want to proceed without first knowing the district could continue to foot the entire bill for irrigation and the more frequent lawn maintenance that goes with it.

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Rob Ruth/Chieftain

Officers of the Enterprise Cemetery District (seated at table) prepare to begin a March 12 district board meeting to continue a public discussion of options for resuming and sustaining irrigation at the cemetery.

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## Baseball is a part of Maxville life

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

As spring is heralding the coming of baseball, Maxville has its own legacy to contribute to the National Pastime. "We came across an image in the archives someone had shared with us of a guy standing in a Maxville uniform next to an old car belonging to the Bowman-Hicks Lumber Company," Trice said.

After some intensive research, Trice discovered Maxville had its own baseball club, and like many community baseball clubs of the era, Maxville played segregated baseball, where white and black citizens played on separate teams. Trice researched the era's uniforms and eventually had a custom uniform designed of traditional materials of the time, in this case, light wool.

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## Sculptor Mozdzenski picks Valley Bronze for project

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Major-General Isaac Brock, a Canadian military hero, is depicted in this approximately 13-foot bronze sculpted by Danek Mozdzenski, who is visible on the ladder in the background.

Renowned Canadian sculptor Danek Mozdzenski, working with Valley Bronze in Joseph, just completed the finishing touches on his statue of Canadian military hero, Major-General Isaac Brock. An eight-person jury selected Mozdzenski from a field of 72 competitors in a nationwide competition for the \$1 million commission piece.

General Brock, a hero of the War of 1812, successfully captured an American fort with Shawnee Chief Tecumseh and helped repulse a U.S. invasion of Upper Canada before being felled by a sniper's bullet on Oct. 3, 1812. The statue's eventual destination is the grounds of Brock University at St. Catharines of Ontario, Canada, not far from Niagara Falls, and only about 14 miles from where Brock died in battle.

Mozdzenski, 63, a self-taught artist from Edmonton, Alberta, knew his life's ambition from the age of 3 and started earning a living at his craft at 14, completing a bust of author Joseph Conrad.

The Brock statue, two years in the making, is approximately 13 feet tall and features Brock standing with a left leg propped on one end of a campaign chest. A sheathed sword and a couple of books lean on the other end of the chest. Brock's bicorne hat, complete with very elaborate cockade sits on the chest lid.

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## City says police chief resigning

ENTERPRISE — Police Chief Wes Kilgore submitted a letter of resignation to the city Monday afternoon, Michele Young, city administrator, said on Tuesday.

Monday night, Young sent out an email notification of an emergency meeting of the Enterprise City Council scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

According to the notice, the purpose of the meeting was to accept Kilgore's resignation and to discuss the hiring of an interim police chief.

Tuesday night's meeting time fell after Wednesday's issue of the Chieftain was scheduled to go to press.

During the day on Tuesday, city officials weren't at

liberty to provide much additional information about the police personnel matter. Young said Kilgore was hired as chief in March 2002.

Mayor Steve Lear was out of town Tuesday. City council president Jenni Word was expected to chair the emergency meeting in his absence.

## Enterprise OKs later music for bike rally

By Rob Ruth

Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Performance of live music will go later into the night in year two of the Wallowa County Thunder Run, scheduled Aug. 20-23 at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds.

The Enterprise City Council has granted event organizer Gary Betscheider's request to extend the cutoff time for live music during the event's final two nights, Friday and Saturday, to 1:30 a.m. Midnight was the cutoff for Friday and Saturday nights last year.

"I think he would probably have a lot of attendance that late with that crowd," said councilor Jenni Word, referring to the new, later time.

Music will end at midnight on Thursday, Aug. 20.

The council also saw fit last week to grant the Thunder Run \$500 from the city's Opportunity Fund.

At its March 9 regular meeting, Enterprise government fielded pitches for motel tax grants from around a dozen organizations. The maximum amount the city awards any one applicant is \$2,000. Mayor Steve Lear noted the city's motel grants fund is still well below the level it was at two years ago, before the former Best Western closed for about a year.

"Basically what we have to offer is 7,000 bucks for 13 applicants," the mayor said.

Groups that made pitches last week included Mountain High Broncs & Bulls, asking for \$2,000; GEMS Downtown Flower Project, \$2,000; GEMS Bowly Bash, \$2,000; Maxville

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## Maxville Center finds new home

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center Executive Director Gwendolyn Trice is resting a little easier these days. The center recently signed a lease to inhabit the space previously occupied by Kelly's Gallery on Main, located at 103 N. Main Street in Joseph.

MHIC, which started as a labor of love for Trice, represents the multicultural heritage of Wallowa County. Maxville once existed within the county as a segregated town occupied by the county's African-American population, as well as whites and immigrants that worked in the woods above Wallowa.

The center occupied several

spaces in the county before finally coming to rest in Joseph. After the completion of the 2008 Oregon Public Broadcasting film "The Logger's Daughter," of which Trice is the subject, she realized the need for a center to tell the story of Maxville and like communities around rural Oregon.

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## CJD COURT'S TICKET SALES TO BEGIN



Courtesy photo

2015 Chief Joseph Days Rodeo Court (from left, Addie Kilgore, Jesse-Ellen Woodhead, and Marli Tracy-Mallory) begin selling tickets to the 70th annual CJD Rodeo (always the last full weekend in July) on March 20, continuing through April 18. The court looks forward to meeting people throughout the ticket sales process and working hard to earn a commission on the amount of tickets sold to help substitute for a summer job. Ticket sales also constitute 25 percent of the score towards crowning the 70th annual CJD Queen.