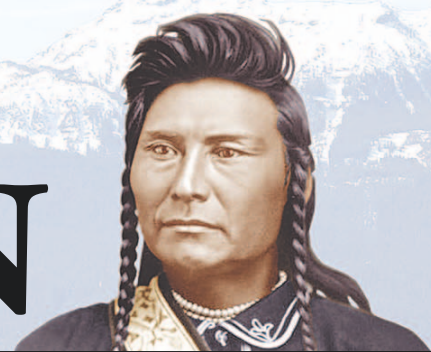




Their just desserts: Education Foundation friends raise \$23K.

- story at bottom of this page

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



Enterprise, Oregon

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Rail-trail groups share development tales

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County residents packed Hurricane Creek Grange last Thursday evening to hear how two rail-trail projects worked out for the communities along their routes.

The presentation, which was arranged by the citizen group Joseph Branch Trail Consortium, was made by representatives from two rail-trails: the 85-mile Weiser River Trail in Idaho and the 105-mile OC&E Woods Line out of Klamath Falls. The Joseph Consortium intended that the two groups would address issues similar to those Wallowa County residents will face should Wallowa Union Railroad

Authority (WURA) agree to allow development of its rail bed to include a trail for public use. No such agreement has yet been made and the Consortium emphasized that their current work was to gather information about what the residents of the county wanted for future presentation to WURA.

Panelists at the presentation included trail-adjacent landowners, citizen organization members and supporting players such as Oregon State Trails Coordinator Rocky Houston and Oregon Parks and Recreation Collier Park Unit Manager Todd Honeywell (former manager of Wallowa Lake State Park).

See PROJECTS, Page A9



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Members of the Joseph Branch Trail Consortium, Friends of the Weiser River Trail, and OC&E Wood Line State Trail put some muscle into the turn-around as they head back to Joseph from Enterprise after a pleasure ride in a railrider prior to the Rail with Trail informational meeting April 9 at Hurricane Creek Grange.

Rhodes charged again

By Stephen Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

During an April 8 Wallowa County Circuit Court hearing on her motion to modify conditions of her release on charges of delivery of a controlled substance to a minor and endangering the welfare of a minor, Stephanie Larae Rhodes, 35, of Enterprise, learned she was facing additional charges.

See HEARING, Page A9

CJD queen coronation Saturday

Saturday, April 18, is the big day for contestants of the 70th Annual Chief Joseph Days rodeo court. Addie Kilgore, Mari Tracy-Mallory and Jesse-Ellen Woodhead are competing in the finals for the title CJD Queen at the Harley Tucker Rodeo Grounds.

The girls will compete in riding and public speaking. Their contestants' respective ticket sales also figure into the outcome. The competition starts at 11 a.m. The competition is free and open to the public.

A dinner, dance and the queen's coronation at the Joseph Community Center follows the competition.

See COURT, Page A9

SORRY, NEIGHBORS NOT SORRY AT ALL



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Casey Kiser (left) and Patrick Powers ready to take the blues/rock world by storm.

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

For anyone looking outside of the standard singer-songwriter fare offered in Wallowa County, there's no need to look further than Sorry, Neighbors for a tasty dose of

blues and rock music. Band members Casey Kiser and Patrick Powers deliver their brand of blues/rock with enough of a proto-punk flavor to keep it interesting and a bit different.

Amazingly, Kiser, the guitarist, and Powers, the bass player, both 16, are only sophomores at Enterprise High School yet manage to deliver the blues with an au-

thenticity beyond their years. The band's name has to do with a teacher neither of them liked.

Kiser started learning guitar in fifth grade from EHS music teacher Randy Morgan before taking some private lessons but teaching himself the blues.

See BAND, Page A8

Ellyn rejoins news staff

Kathleen Ellyn has returned for her second tour as a reporter for the Chieftain.

Ellyn first worked for the Chieftain alongside Elane Dickenson from 2007 to 2010 before moving to the west side to assist friends and family with terminal illnesses.

Now, she's back and glad to be back.

"I look at what Elane did — 36 years chronicling the life and times of Wallowa County — and I think that's a great legacy," Ellyn said.

Chieftain Editor Rob Ruth was also pleased to have Ellyn on staff. "Kathleen is an experienced reporter who knows our community," Ruth said. "She hit the ground running, just as we expected she would."

Ellyn replaces reporter Rocky Wilson, who retired in April.

Ellyn is a multiple award-winning writer in a variety of genres including screenplay, poetry and journalism and is a contributing editor to the online literary magazine Elohi Gadugi.



Ellyn

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Cemetery board reorganizes, eyes new funding

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

It's been an exciting spring for the Enterprise Cemetery Board. In just three meetings since the New Year the group has seen three resignations, an expansion of the board to five members, and a significant pledge made by a volunteer group.

To reprise events, Enterprise Cemetery District Board member Lee Bollman resigned in March and cemetery manager Mike Moore's resignation followed. Bollman was replaced by Perry Davis.

Then, board member George Hill's resignation was announced at the April 9 meeting.



Courtesy photo

W.C. Locke's tombstone demonstrates several of the care issues the Historic Enterprise Cemetery Board hopes to tackle in the coming years: settling, moss damage and lack of irrigation. Other issues include severe damage to gravesites caused by ground squirrels, and breakage of markers.

See CEMETERY, Page A8

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

It might have looked like recess to the visitor, but the 11th Annual Education Foundation (EEF) "We Love Our Kids" banquet and auction made the grade, as usual.

Early accounting on the April 10 event tabulated over \$23,000 donated in one night toward the \$40,000 goal. The money goes to help pay both K-6 music and K-12 art teachers in the district.

"That amount gives us a very good jump on our pledge to the school," said EEF President Cindi Aschenbrenner. "This community is amazing." An away game thinned out the banquet tables usually crammed with parents, but grandparents filled in and the crowd was lively and appreciative.

Aschenbrenner started the night by recognizing the hard work of the board, the fore-



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftainwww

Anette Christoffersen bids on and wins dinner for eight with Gail Swart.

sight of the founding members, the excellent work of the teachers, and "the school administrators, secretaries, janitors and aides. They're not only keeping the school run-

ning like clockwork, they are ready to jump in and mother a child — or a parent — as needed," Aschenbrenner said.

See FUNDRAISER, Page A10

