

# Enterprise Library fundraiser finishing

The Enterprise City Library Lift Project is nearing the fundraising finish line, according to Enterprise City Librarian Denine Rautenstrauch. "Nearing" but not yet leaning into the tape. A couple of ongoing fundraisers are still in process and the library is waiting to hear about one more potentially significant contribution. The library board was able to raise \$11,100 in March and used

\$398 of that to pay for advertising for the Nature Conservancy deer tag contest and set aside another \$1,500 to pay for the guide on that hunt. The winner of that tag was Joe Jaquith of Newberg. The next fundraiser is the upcoming Readathon event designed to raise the last few dollars needed to match a grant for the Library Lift Project. Participants have just a few days left to get their pledges. The

event is set for Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Enterprise Public Library. Last-minute reader/performers willing to read to an audience in the library may pick up their pledge forms and sign up at the library prior to the event. There will be prizes and a drawing for the adults who choose to participate. "This is going to be a fun event," said Rautenstrauch. "We want this event to have a party atmo-

sphere — because, reading is fun." Rautenstrauch was also able to announce the availability of a legal information library recently purchased by the State of Oregon Law Library that is now accessible online to all Oregonians. NOLO publications featured in the library normally cost from \$9 to over \$30, but are available free from any browser of location within the state, thanks to this recent purchase. The library

includes forms and information on credit repair, financial planning, estate planning, buying or selling a house, patents and copyrights and many more subjects. Access this research at <http://tinyurl.com/ldvwwfv>. The information provided should give the reader an overview of a legal subject matter that affects them and their families. Legal forms can be searched and are linked to Oregon State/County Court websites.

## LORENE TURNS 100



Courtesy photo

Lorene Pitts-Gibb, who lived in Wallowa County from 1994 to 2007, is turning 100 on April 22. Lorene's daughter, Bonnie Davis, said her mother entered paintings in an art festival and wrote poetry during her Wallowa County years. She also had her hair done by Phyllis Johnson every week and would visit with Charlene Haines at the Safeway pharmacy. She now resides at Cougar Springs Assisted Living in Redmond.

## Forests to re-engage public on plans

With the assistance of external partners, the Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests are preparing to embark on a series of community-hosted public engagement meetings on the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision over the next several months. The goal of this engagement is to encourage a dialogue among people with differing perspectives so they can work together and identify common ground and create potential solutions which can be incorporated in the final Forest Plans.

"Based upon a preliminary review of people's comments to the draft Environmental Impact Statement, we know that there are areas of concern that would benefit from further conversations," Wallowa-Whitman Forest Supervisor Tom Montoya said. "We genuinely want to hear your ideas as we seek to create the best Plans possible for our forests and our communities. This can only happen if we all work collaboratively with our stakeholders, partners, counties, and the public."

The Forest Service held three strategy meetings earlier this year to discuss ideas and opportunities for meaningful public engagement. Participants provided feedback on how to structure successful engagement, including recommending that external partners, rather than the Forest Service, host these

meetings in some cases. The Forest Service has been actively working with a wide array of potential partners to explore carrying out this suggestion.

"The engagement work we've done so far this year is just the beginning," said Umatilla Forest Supervisor Kevin Martin. "We welcome the opportunity to meet with any and all groups who are interested in helping us bridge the gap among divergent perspectives and finding solutions which will be acceptable to people on both sides of a concern area."

Each forest will have its own Record of Decision and Forest Plan, so engagement may occur differently throughout the three forests based upon community issues and interest. When specific dates and locations are confirmed, these engagement meetings will be publicly announced.

"There is tremendous value in the public's participation," said Steve Beverlin, forest supervisor of the Malheur National Forest. "Through this process, we will learn how the Draft EIS should be changed. We have flexibility for modifying the existing alternatives or developing new alternatives, provided the changes continue to follow all applicable laws, regulations and policies that the Forest Service must follow. Your input can result in

concrete changes to improve the Plans."

Engagement meetings will only address concerns as they relate to the Forest Plan. Forest Plans provide strategic guidance, establish guidelines for management, and set standards for what we do on National Forest System lands. Forest Plans do not make decisions for site-specific projects. Instead, they suggest where certain types of management activities might occur, define areas suitable for a variety of uses, and recommend wilderness areas should Congress choose to set that land aside. All national forests are required to have Forest Plans, and to revise them to ensure they reflect current understanding of social, economic,

and ecological goals for public lands.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the proposed Revised Plans were released in March 2014 for a 150-day comment period. The Forest Service also held more than a dozen public meetings in Eastern Oregon and Southeastern Washington.

Additional information about the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision is available online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/BlueMtns-PlanRevision>. If you are interested in discussing hosting an engagement event, please contact Melissa Wilson, acting public affairs officer for the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision, at 541-523-1231 or by email at [mwilson04@fs.fed.us](mailto:mwilson04@fs.fed.us)

## Ice blocks Wallowa Mountain Loop Road

Snow and ice have stifled efforts to open the Wallowa Mountain Loop Road (FSR 39) and the detour route on FSR 66. There will be no through traffic from Halfway to Joseph until mid-June.

Neither route is normally open until June 16, but unusually mild weather conditions initially led Tidewater Contractors, of Brookings, to attempt to open the roads and get an early start on the planned road construction.

Unfortunately, contractors discovered a half-mile of the Loop Road so iced over it couldn't be cleared and deep snow on alternate route FSR 66.

So, it's back to the original schedule for work to begin June 16. Beginning June 16, Loop Road will be open to passenger vehicles 5 p.m. on Thursday to 8 a.m. Tuesday so that campers can use the road over the weekend.

Beginning July 1, when construction begins, travelers should expect rough surfaces and delays of up to an hour on Loop Road. They may use the alternate route of FSR 66 but be aware that FSR 66 is a 30-mile, single-lane gravel road with pullouts to allow motorists to pass one another. It is not recommended for motor homes.

The \$5.3 million contract to reconstruct 18 miles of Loop Road is the largest of its kind in the Forest Service system and is scheduled for completion this fall.

The Wallowa Mountain Loop Road was designated as a National Forest Scenic Byway in 1992 and named a State Scenic Byway in 1996. In 2000, the Federal Highway Administration established the Hells Canyon All-American Road because of its exceptional views, widely varied terrain, recreational opportunities and historical significance.



**We have what you need to get your projects done!**

Lumber • Moldings  
Laminate • Windows Doors  
Siding • Roofing • Paint & Stain  
And so much more!



## ATTENTION HUNTERS!



Have you ever dreamed of hunting in Africa? Naude' Alberts from DewClaw Hunting Safaris will be here on May 1st to give a free presentation on hunting in Namibia, Africa.

Friday, May 1st at 7:00pm  
Island City Town Hall  
10605 Island Ave.  
Ivan Judd- 541-866-9795 (after 7pm)

# Join Our Team

**The Wallowa County Chieftain has an opening for a summer sales position.**

No experience required, will train right person.

We are looking for someone who is confident, self-motivated and hard working. Think you might be the right person?

**Call Brooke Pace to learn more about the position.**



Or send your resume to [hr@eomediagroup.com](mailto:hr@eomediagroup.com) or fax 503-371-2935

**Brooke Pace | 541-426-4567 Advertising Sales Consultant Wallowa County Chieftain**



## An Evening to Benefit Veterans



**Saturday, April 25, 2015 – 6:00 PM  
Cloverleaf Hall, Enterprise, OR**

Wild Game & Salmon Dinner • Auction • Door Prizes

TICKETS \$25

The Blonde Strawberry – The Bookloft – Sports Corral  
and at All Air HVAC in LG  
or by calling 541-426-4871

or with a CC online at [www.dividecamp.org/banquet.htm](http://www.dividecamp.org/banquet.htm)

Plan on staying late to celebrate with us – Music by Last Call!