



TURNING BACK THE CLOCK ON A GREAT OLD HOUSE:

Arments' remodel featured in special Home & Garden section! (Section B)

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



Enterprise, Oregon

www.wallowa.com

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WVSL residents can stay

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The families of three Wallowa Valley Senior Living residents who were given 30 days' notice by the facility to find alternative care breathed a sigh of relief as the facility rescinded the orders. WVSL officials originally told the families the residents were given notice because their needs exceeded the level of care WVSL provides.

See *REPRIEVE*, Page A7

Enterprise library wins big

By Kathleen Ellyn

Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise Public Library is going up ... and down. Or rather, patrons with mobility issues are soon going to be going both up and down in the library elevator.

Librarian Denine Rautenstrauch received word Tuesday, June 23, that the library had won the final grant that brings the funding for the library elevator project to over \$244,000.

See *LIBRARY*, Page A7



ODFW: Wolf killed calf near Wallowa

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife investigated a suspected wolf depredation to a 350-pound calf outside of Wallowa on June 20. Fred Steen, chief deputy for the sheriff's office, said he harbored no doubts that a wolf was responsible for the kill.

See *KILL*, Page A3

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

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ENTERPRISE SIGN PROJECT READY TO BREAK GROUND



No one is going to think we're some kind of subdivision of Joseph



Local artist Steve Arment works on the Enterprise city sign, preparing it for display later this year.

Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

A SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

STORY ON A7

Fish deaths stump ODFW

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Anglers visiting Kinney Lake had their hopes of huge catches dashed after an unknown malady left a good number of fish dead and floating along the banks over the June 13-14 weekend. The lake is on the Triple Creek Ranch about six miles from Joseph and stocked and maintained by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

ODFW had stocked the lake with 2,500 trout only a couple of days before, so the deaths came as a surprise to Kyle Bratcher, ODFW assistant district fish biologist. Bratcher learned about the deaths via a June 14 Facebook post. "We don't know what happened. We're still working on it," Bratcher said.

Most of the dead fish are bullheads with an occasional



Steve Tool/Chieftain

These two bullheads are among the many dead fish up at Kinney Lake. ODFW biologists are still puzzling out the mystery of why they died.

trout in the mix. ODFW had planned to poison the lake in the fall, and irate anglers who either called Bratcher or posted

on Facebook thought the department decided to move up the date.

Bratcher guessed that

one of the possible reasons for the deaths is because the bullheads are in the middle of spawning. "They spawn in the shallows in less than two feet of water and something happened that caused the pH (acidic levels) to go up, or the D.O. (dissolved oxygen) dropped. I walked around the lake on Monday (June 15), counting fish, and it doesn't seem to have affected the trout nearly as bad," Bratcher said. He added that most of the dead trout were on the west end of the lake and possibly died as a result of the restocking process.

According to Bratcher, the bullheads are in poor physical condition during the spawning season, and because of overpopulation are unsuccessfully competing with trout for resources.

See *FISH*, Page A7

Little Basin Fire wanes

The Little Basin Fire is breathing its last after about a week of burning. The fire, located in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area near the Dug Bar Road in Imnaha Canyon, at one time grew to 630 acres with minimal containment.

Nearly 100 personnel from both the U.S. Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Forestry including 3 Hot Shot crews and several fire trucks and aircraft fought the blaze to a standstill.

At one point, the fire threatened several cabins and a commercial structure.

The fire is currently 97 percent contained with 82 personnel, two helicopters and four engines still on scene.

The cause of the fire is unknown.