

Nashes honored as Cattlemen of the Year

Todd and Angie Nash were honored Saturday night at the Wallowa County Stockgrowers Awards Banquet as Cattlemen of the Year.

Nash, who is manager of Marr Flat Cattle Co. of Joseph, has been an active community leader for many years.

With wife Angie at his side, supporting him even when cattle raising didn't look like a very good idea, Todd has served as vice president of Stockgrowers under President Phil Ketscher and was president from 2010 to 2012. He also serves as chairman of the Wolf Committee for the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, came up with the idea for the Stockgrowers Rodeo and World Championship Rock Jack Building contest seven years ago and served as chairman of the event. He hosts exchange kids from Sunnyside Environmental School in Portland who come to learn the ranchers' way of life, and was influential in starting the scholarship program and heifer program which supplies young cattlemen and women with a purebred heifer.

And that's just a partial list.

Beef leader

Under Nash's management, Marr Flat Cattle, which is owned by the Don Buhler Family, has become a leader in grass-fed beef products.

Todd manages 800 cows, grazing 80,000 acres. The cows make an annual 120-mile round-trip migration from the calving grounds between Enterprise and Joseph to Big Sheep and then Marr Flat on the edge of the Eagle Cap wilderness.

The vast amount of time the cows are grazing and the short amount of time they have to be fed expensive hay has been a key to the well-known efficiency of this operation under Todd's guidance.

In addition, Nash runs a smaller seed stock group of cows at the Mt. Joseph Ranch



Courtesy photo/Janie Tippett

Cattlemen of the Year winners Angie and Todd Nash of Marr Flat Cattle Co. Friend and fellow rancher Jeff Parker (far right) provided the extensive history of the Nashes' contributions to Wallowa County and made the presentation.

where Todd has implemented an artificial insemination (A.I.) program for several decades. There, the couple produces bulls for their own use and to sell.

Marr Flat Cattle is heavily involved in Branded Beef programs, retaining ownership (and quality control) of the majority of their calves through the finishing phase.

They began pioneering the specialty market with their own Marr Flat All Natural Beef, which has been sold into several states with considerable volume. Over the years, Marr Flat cattle have been sought out by and marketed through several large, well-known branded programs, such as Country Natural and Meyers all natural beef, but by far the largest number of cattle over the years have gone to Merton Homer's Painted Hills Natural Beef program, based out of Fossil.

Todd has said when they

started finishing cattle, they had about 25 percent grading select and just a very occasional prime. Today, they have virtually no select, mostly choice, but have impressively moved to approximately 25 percent prime.

While Todd's early involvement in A.I. to improve the herd has played a role, much of the success is attributed to the care and management the cattle receive.

Nash is quick to credit his wife of 25 years, Angie, with essential support. Angie is a multitasker who works on the

ranch, is a big part of Marr Flat all natural beef sales, and volunteers to cook Marr Flat beef at local events — such as Hells Canyon Mule Days — and also works at Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness.

Despite their combined reputations, the award surprised the Nashes.

"I was surprised," Todd Nash said. "When I look at the people who got it in prior years, it's real humbling. You don't do any of that work by yourself; I've had a lot of help from a lot of people for a long time."



M. CROW - LOSTINE, OR

Market finds last-minute hero

By Kathleen Ellyn

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Wallowa Livestock Marketing Association lamb shipment received a last-minute reprieve last week. The auction, which began in 1927, almost ended when Larry and Juanita Waters retired as volunteer organizers.

"We couldn't find anyone to take it over," OSU Extension Agent John Williams said. "I was just about to announce, 'It's been here since 1927, but it is no more.' Then Bob Perry volunteered."

Perry has served as an organizer in the past, but had left the county for South Dakota. He's

back and has purchased property in Lostine and will be the volunteer organizer once again.

The only shipment date for 2015 will be 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29 at Wayne Cook's Livestock scales on Southeast Florence in Enterprise. Sheep growers are advised to note the cutoff time of 10 a.m., as it will be strictly enforced.

Juanita Waters will handle the paperwork in advance for one last time, she said. Sheep growers planning to send sheep should contact Juanita Waters at 541-432-7055 by 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, with the number of sheep they wish to ship.

Gathering honors logging

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Maxville Gathering, an event celebrating and honoring the former logging town, is taking place Aug. 22.

The event is sponsored by the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center and is hosted by the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Interpretive Center at the Tamkaliks grounds just outside Wallowa.

Gwen Trice, MHIC's director, has high hopes for this year's gathering.

"We're having a lumberjack show this year, so when people come to the gate, they'll pull over and pay an entry fee, which will help us sustain the lumberjack show annually," Trice said. She added that having cash rather than a credit/debit card will expedite the entry process.

The entry fee is \$3 for students \$5 per individual, \$10 per family and \$15 for groups.

"Our goal is for anyone to be able to afford to enter, but we want to maintain the event," Trice said. She also said the dinner price is \$7 and features barbecue.

Free tent and RV camping is available sans water hookups, although campers must register. Showers are also available for a nominal fee for campers. Dogs are allowed on leash, and owners must clean up after them.

The lumberjack show is a new feature of the gathering and called "The West Coast Lumberjack Show." Because of insurance concerns, locals cannot participate, although Trice said that may change in the future. The show will feature three perfor-

mances throughout the day, with children's games and activities offered after each show.

Local musician Darrell Brann is scheduled to perform music, while Grammy Award-winning traditional musician Dom Flemons, formerly of the group "Carolina Chocolate Drops," will give a preview of his full concert performance slated at the OK Theatre after the event. Anyone with a prepaid ticket to Flemons' theatre performance will get free access to the gathering.

"Darrell and I have talked about getting Dom down here for a long time. He knows the music of the period well, and he sings it with the energy of youth," Trice said.

Attending the gathering can provide a benefit to the community as well as the individual according to Trice. "This isn't only about celebrating Maxville, it's a gathering of community, and welcoming visitors. We want everyone to be joyful that we're all working together to provide a safe, family-friendly opportunity to know a little bit about Wallowa County's cultural history as well as its logging history," she said.

AROUND ENTERPRISE

Friday, it felt like the end of the world was near. Saturday arrived and the sun came out with blue skies and shiny cars scattered along the streets. The Main Street Show and Shine 2015 was a perfect day in Enterprise.

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Power Plant Employees and Contractors

If you or a family member ever worked at a power plant, you could have been exposed to asbestos.

To keep your right to compensation if you become ill in the future (or have asbestos-related illness today), you must submit a claim by December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.

Energy Future Holdings Corp., Ebasco Services, Inc., EECI, Inc. and certain subsidiaries ("EFH") owned, operated, maintained, or built certain power plants across the United States and in other countries where asbestos was present. Workers at these power plants (and family members and others who came into contact with these workers) may have been exposed to asbestos.

Anyone who has a claim today against EFH for asbestos-related illness or who may develop an asbestos-related illness in the future, must submit a claim by **December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time** to be eligible for compensation now or in the future.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a fiber which was used as insulation in walls, wires, pipes, boilers, generators, steam traps, pumps, valves, electrical boards, gaskets, packing material, turbines, compressors, cement and cement pipes. Workers responsible for building and maintaining power plants and equipment also wore insulated clothing or gear that may have contained asbestos. Virtually all power plants built before 1980 used or contained asbestos-containing products.

Asbestos-related illnesses can be very serious or fatal and include diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer, laryngeal cancer, esophageal cancer, pharyngeal cancer, stomach cancer and asbestosis. Even if your exposure to asbestos was many years ago and you are not sick today, this notice could affect you. Asbestos-related illness can occur decades and even 50 years after the exposure to asbestos that caused the illness.

Which power plants are included?

You or a family member could have been exposed at any of the power plants related to EFH. These power plants were located across the United States and some in foreign countries. For a list of the included power plants, visit the website below or call 1-877-276-7311.

How could this affect me?

You could have been exposed to asbestos if you or a family member worked at any of the included power plants as an employee, a contractor, or in any other role. You also could have been exposed by coming in contact with another person who worked at a power plant (for example, if asbestos was brought home on your spouse or parent's clothing). You may also file a claim on behalf of a deceased family member.

What do I do now?

If you believe that you or a family member may have been exposed to asbestos at an included plant, submit a claim by **December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time**. Go to www.EFHAsbestosClaims.com to submit your claim online. To get a paper claim form, visit the website or call 1-877-276-7311. Submitting a claim preserves your right to ask for money if you develop asbestos-related illness in the future.

You can submit a claim yourself or you can ask a lawyer to help you. If you are not ill today, completing a claim takes about five minutes.

What if I do nothing?

If you do not submit a claim and later develop asbestos-related disease, you will **not** be eligible for compensation from EFH. Even if you have not been diagnosed with disease or experienced symptoms, you must make a claim to preserve your right to compensation if you develop an asbestos-related illness in the future.

File a Claim Now

Go to www.EFHAsbestosClaims.com to file a claim online or call 1-877-276-7311 to request a claim form be sent to you.

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Jim Harbeck
Research Biologist and Joseph Field Office Supervisor
Nez Perce Tribe Dept. of Fisheries

Friday, August 28th • 7pm
Light Refreshments

Wallowology!

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