

CREW

Continued from Page A1

Staying out in front of the mushers often means they must leave before the mandatory six hours of rest required of mushers and dogs is up. And often a musher will “blow through” a checkpoint where there is no mandatory rest stop, choosing to take a short break and then rest out on the trail — part of the strategy of the race to keep competitors guessing about where they are.

And then there’s the sheer distances covered over the four days of the race. “We’ve added up all the ups and downs on the trail and it comes to the equivalent of going to the top of Mt. Everest and back: 29,000 feet,” Glenn said.

There is one new feature that everyone, musher and Trail Team alike is looking forward to this year. The 200-mile race used to go all the way to Biglow Meadows at Halfway, Ore., but avalanche



Courtesy photos

Dealing with downed trees on the Trail, Tom Gleasman in the front with 2016 Trail Boss Dave McConathy.

danger on that last leg of the race caused a change in route a few years back. This year, a change in the third leg of the 200-mile route makes for a

less rigorous run in what is already one of the most rigorous contests in the Lower 48. This year mushers have 17 miles of route heading out to P.O. Sad-

dle out past McGraw Lookout for stunning views of Hells Canyon.

“That whole route that we’re adding starts from the Hells Canyon overlook and goes out to the northeast right above Hells canyon,” Glenn said. “You’re looking into Hells Canyon quite a few places on that trip.”

Glenn served as trail crew boss for many years, but he’s pleased to have handed that big job over to Dave McConathy. Dave has taken over the incredible weight of organizing the crew, the gear, the emergency response, the radio transmissions ... the list is lengthy. Dave makes a good crew leader, partly because he’s also the vice president of the Wallowa County Gamblers snowmobile club and has been part of the original trail breaking and the Poker Run that happens the week before the sled dog race and runs over 30 miles of the same trails.

He can tell where he is in those mountains in the dark when the snow is blowing sideways. He’s also Winter Team Captain of Wallowa County Search and Rescue. Glenn McDonald, his former crew boss and now leader of the sweep team is the senior member of the Wallowa County Search and Rescue Dog Team.

Either one of these guys are just the guys you want to see when things go sideways. Dave may be the trail boss,

but he’s made Glenn the point leader and taken sweep for himself. Dave is literally the last man off the mountain.

“We keep a safe distance behind mushers and make sure they’re OK,” Dave said. “We check in with spot trackers (a GPS transmitter back to race central). We check in via ham radio every 5 miles.

“We’re running behind the very last musher in the 200-mile race and making sure everyone is OK and accounted for. We can’t help a musher or he’s disqualified, but if they need assistance and want to officially scratch from the race, we can help them.”

The mushers are perfectly bracketed between top rescue teams.

It may be true that every man loves a challenge, but the intense challenge of the Eagle Cap Extreme is not the only thing that moves the trail crew.

For Dave, it’s knowing he’s there to help.

“I think the part I enjoy the most about this is being out in the middle of the woods in the night knowing I helped make this race happen and knowing I’m helping the mushers,” he said.

And then there’s the stuff that makes a guy get a little choked up.

“Seeing the mushers with the dogs and the relationships they have with them ... I’ve seen mushers lay down and sleep with their dogs. I stayed with a musher whose dogs wouldn’t run all night until we had someone come in and relieve us. We built a fire and stayed with her until morning when she scratched.

“Definitely the musher-dog relationship is amazing. They sing to them, they talk to them, they know them.”

The old trail boss, the old man on the mountain, Glenn McDonald echoes those sentiments.

“I think for me watching the enthusiasm of the dogs is the most emotionally moving thing,” Glenn said. “It almost makes me cry when I watch the enthusiasm for the dogs to get going at the start of the race; that just really gets me right in the gut. A more intellectual thing is the athleticism of the dogs. You watch them at the 50 miles, and they’ve got to be tired, and those dogs are hitting the harness, looking back at the musher and saying, ‘let’s go!’ That really swells my heart.”

THE SCENE



Friday, Jan. 8

• Open mic, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity
• Fishtrap Fireside, 7 p.m. at Fishtrap, 400 E Grant St. in Enterprise. Featuring Brenda Buchanan, Jesse Johnson and Ralph Swinehart. An open mic reading follows and is limited to five minutes (including introductions) and a maximum of four performers. First come, first served.

Saturday, Jan. 9

• The Music Alliance continues its season of Tunesmith Night, featuring songwriters Edmund Wayne, Mike Cramer and Brent Wydrinski. Doors open at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m. at Lear’s Main Street Grill, 111 W. Main, Enterprise. Admission is \$10 at the door or by season pass. All ages welcome.
• Seth Kinzie, an impressionist piano composer, will be performing his new album accompanied by Linton Wright — a percussionist from Alabama — as well as trumpet, saxophone and modern dance, 7 p.m. at Odd Fellows Hall in Enterprise. \$12 by donation, kids free. There will be free wine at the event.

Sunday, Jan. 10

• Open mic, 4-6 p.m. at Josephy Center

Friday, Jan. 22

• Brian Bovenizer & the Koala Cowboys, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity.

Saturday, Jan. 23

• Great Red Shark, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity.

WOLF

Continued from Page A1

“We made every effort to avoid having to go to court,” Klavins said. “We spent a lot of time and effort to come to agreements to solve everyone’s problems and allow wolf recovery to stay on track.”

Like Cady, Klavins accused the agency of violating state statutes. In particular, he said the state put off a legally mandated review of the Oregon Wolf Management Plan, pushed for delisting and ignored the opinions of independent scientists and the wishes of thousands of Oregonians in its decision.

“The fundamental part of the legal challenge is that the state has to follow its own laws and rules,” Klavins said. “They broke the law in the decision and the way they made the decision.”

Noah Greenwald, Endangered species Program director for the Center of Biological Diversity, took it a step further in a press release, saying: “It’s not rocket science that roughly 80 wolves in 12 percent of suitable habitat in Oregon does not equal a recovered population.”

Local cattleman and head of the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association Wolf Task Force Todd Nash wasn’t surprised by the challenge.

“It’s predictable,” Nash said. “I’m surprised it took as long as it did.”

Nash said he hoped pending legislation in the Oregon Legislature would stop such legal challenges.

“I would just as soon not engage in this lawsuit if we don’t have to.”

Wallowa County Commissioner Susan Roberts also wasn’t surprised.

“As we’ve gone through this process with the Oregon Wolf Plan, prior to wolves being on the landscape, the ranchers and everyone else has tried to follow the plan and each step have tried their best to be compliant,” Roberts said. “We would wish that folks who agreed with that from the beginning were sticking with it. We were hoping they would adhere to the rules, but obviously, that’s not going to happen.”

The Oregon Cattlemen’s Association issued the following statement in response to the challenge: “The Oregon Cattlemen’s Association is following the attempt to remove the newly active wolf delisting. The Oregon Cattlemen’s Association supports the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s decision regarding the delisting.”

Call to Women Artists

Up to three art pieces due January 15.

Details at www.josephy.org/call-for-entries/

Opening Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.



403 North Main St. • Joseph, OR 541-432-0505 • info@josephy.org



Cynthia Harvey

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BIRTH

A daughter,
Sarah Stephanie Noyes,
was born December 20, 2015,
in Enterprise
to Mark Noyes and
Kristen Tompeck of
Wallowa. Grandparents are
Stephanie Tompeck,
and Janet and Richard Noyes.

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- ACROSS
- 1. Engine additive
 - 4. Soluble ribonucleic acid
 - 8. Subdue
 - 10. One long, three short
 - 11. Morally bad
 - 12. With collapsible shelter
 - 13. Central church parts
 - 15. Summer shoes
 - 16. Intestinal
 - 17. Transgressors
 - 18. Meeting expectations
 - 21. Clutch
 - 22. Autonomic nervous system
 - 23. What you can repeat immediately after perceiving it
 - 24. Favorite summer sandwich
 - 25. An accountant certified by the state
 - 26. Cologne
 - 27. Norma Jean Baker
 - 34. Galaxies
 - 35. Bluish greens
 - 36. Detected
 - 37. Having 3 dimensions
 - 38. Made level
 - 39. The destroyer (Hindu)
 - 40. Uncovered
 - 41. Ooze slowly
 - 42. Aerie
 - 43. Point midway between S and SE

- DOWN
- 1. Having beautiful natural views
 - 2. Fanafuti is the capital
 - 3. Shrub used for hedges
 - 4. Polishing tools
 - 5. Slow down
 - 6. Christmas carols
 - 7. & & &
 - 9. Sound of sheep or goat
 - 10. A long flag, often tapering
 - 12. Atomic #73
 - 14. Schilling (abbr.)
 - 15. Female sibling
 - 17. Long sandwich
 - 19. In a way, necessitated
 - 20. Mayan people of SW Guatemala
 - 23. Cleaned up
 - 24. Prohibit
 - 25. Upright cupboard
 - 26. Cyclone center
 - 27. Metric linear units
 - 28. Young male
 - 29. Securities market
 - 30. City across from Dusseldorf
 - 31. Animal disease
 - 32. Mount of ___ east of Jerusalem
 - 33. Get free
 - 34. Variable stars
 - 36. One point N of NE

Church Directory

St. Katherine's Catholic Church

Fr. Roger Fernando
301 E. Garfield Enterprise
Mass Schedule
Weekdays 7:15am
Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am
(541)426-4008
stkatherinecenterprise.org
St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am
All are welcome

Summit Church

Gospel Centered Community
Service time: 10:30 am
Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise
Pastor Mark Garland
www.summitchurchoregon.org

Joseph United Methodist Church

3rd & Lake St. • Joseph
Pastor Cherie Johnson
Phone: 541-432-3102
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am
Children's Sunday School meets during service

Faith Lutheran Church

409 W. Main
Enterprise, Oregon
Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm
Bible Study Tuesdays before the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11 am
LCMS
(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Enterprise Christian Church

207 East Main - (541) 426-3449
Worship at 8:15 & 11:00
Sunday School at 9:45
Evening Worship at 6:00 (nursery at A.M. services)
“Loving God & One Another”
David Bruce, Sr. Minister

Christ Covenant Church

Pastor Terry Tollefson
Church Office: 541-426-0301
Family Prayer: 9:30am
Sunday School: 10am
Worship Service: 11am
723 College Street • Lostine
Providence Academy

Lostine Presbyterian Church

Discussion Group 9:30 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Childrens program during service
Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com
541.398.0597
Hwy 82, Lostine
Stephen Kliever, Minister

Enterprise Community Congregational Church

United Church of Christ The Big Brown Church
Sunday Worship 11A.M.
301 N. E. First Street
Enterprise
(541) 426-3044
Sunday School 11 A.M.

Wallowa Assembly of God

606 West Hwy 82
Wallowa, Oregon
541-886-8445
Sunday School • 9:30
Worship Service • 10:45
Pastor Tim Barton
wallowaassemblyofgod.com

Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School

305 Wagner (near the Cemetery)
P.O. Box N, Enterprise, OR 97828
541-426-3751 Church
541-426-8339 School
Worship Services
Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon
Pastor Jonathan DeWeber