

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

Lodge nearly locally owned

Lake Wallowa Lodge LLC poised to meet investment goal

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

With less than a week to go to meet the magic number of \$1.5 million in private investments, Lake Wallowa Lodge LLC is packing their days with back-to-back informational meetings in restaurants, meeting halls and private residences as they fly toward the checkered flag. That flag flashes down Jan. 15.

There seemed no doubt during the last local presentation held Jan. 8 at Lostine Tavern that the LLC would meet its goal and purchase the historic lodge and property at the south end of Wallowa Lake.

Approximately 25 potential investors and donors filled the banquet room of the tavern as representatives and investors presented the plan for the lodge and told their stories of motivation for investment.

Key among the speakers was Laura Cosgrove, current manager of the lodge and recent investor.

“Recently I’ve been able to tell my daughter and granddaughter I have something valuable to leave them,” she said. “I was waiting for an opportunity to do something amazing with my small savings — and I’ve purchased shares in the lodge. It’s an amazing piece of history and this is your opportunity to own a piece of history without the burden of sole ownership.”

Representatives of the LLC made clear that the group would sell the entire acreage of the 9.22-acre property as a conservation easement.

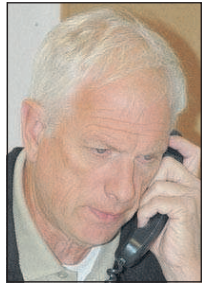
The original size of the property had been reported at 8.5 acres but the LLC had the property re-surveyed and discovered it was larger than originally thought.

The easement would be written in such a way as to allow the lodge to remain and some modest construction changes would be permitted.

See LODGE, Page A8

Wallowa County Sheriff responds to Harney County request for help

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain



Rogers.

The Wallowa County Sheriff’s Office has responded to a request for aid from Harney County Sheriff David Ward.

Sheriff Steve Rogers and Deputy Paul Pagano this week made the 255-mile trip to Burns, Ore., which has been

“ WE ARE NOT GETTING INVOLVED WITH ANY FEDERAL ACTIONS

at the center of a media storm since an armed group seized

federal buildings on Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on Jan. 2.

“We are not getting involved with any federal actions,” Rogers said. “We are strictly going to help with patrols for the safety of the communities involved.”

He added that law enforcement in the Burns area has

been on 24/7 patrols.

“Those people on patrol are just exhausted and we’re doing what we can to help,” Rogers said.

Rogers was still on the scene with Pagano on Monday and expected to return home Tuesday.

See HELP, Page A8

RUN IN THE FAMILY



Bruggeman takes up reins as representative of mushing clan; son bows out for finals week

Spencer Bruggeman gives his puppies some love prior to the West Yellowstone Rodeo Race on Dec. 15.

Courtesy photo

LAST YEAR’S EAGLE CAP EXTREME WINNER RETURNS TO DEFEND TITLE

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

As John Lennon famously said, “Life is what happens while you’re busy making other plans.” And that’s a good explanation for how a lot of folks get into mushing. It was not necessarily in the plan.

It’s certainly accurate in describing how the Bruggemans got into mushing.

Locals will remember Brett Bruggeman, a dentist in Great Falls, Mont. in his regular life, as the

musher who won the 200-mile Eagle Cap Extreme race last year and finished second in 2013.

Mushing and winning the ECX weren’t in Brett’s five-year plan. The mushing life happened because of his son Spencer.

Spencer is the youngest of three sons Brett and Suzette Bruggeman are proud to call their own. Spencer, 14, had planned to run his dogs in the Eagle Cap Extreme youth division race this year, but it’s the week of finals at school and he can’t miss those tests because he wants to be a surgeon.

See RACE, Page A9

MEET AND GREET

Meet the mushers, dogs and vets at the Vet Check on Main Street on Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 9 a.m. in Joseph and 1 p.m. in Enterprise. Please leave pets at home.

