

ARTS

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The Enterprise Education Foundation, for its part, has helped pay for K-6 music and K-12 art teachers in the district for the past 18 years. With a goal of raising \$40,000 every year, the Foundation has managed to raise \$980,000 in that time and hopes to break the \$1 million mark this spring.

Arts in Wallowa County

RAND

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After skiing down to his friend, Vandenbos immediately applied first aid and CPR, but due to massive injuries and no means for a quick rescue, Rand couldn't be saved.

He's the fourth backcountry skiing fatality in the Wallowa Mountains since 2009.

Rand grew up in Boise with his parents Tom and Barbara.

He inherited his passion of the outdoors from his father. Kip Rand loved and lived the outdoors, pursuing rock-climbing, rafting, kayaking and backcountry skiing with equal intensity. In the midst of this, he earned a resource management degree from the University of Montana in Missoula. Those who knew him said his sharp mind easily could have propelled him to graduate school, but he was too busy living the outdoor dream to immerse himself in the scholar's life.

Conlee Brown — owner of Wallowa Alpine Huts and Rand's former employer — said he met the young man around 2010 at Row Adventures, a river outfitter based in Coeur d'Alene. It was there that Rand also met his longtime girlfriend Robin Davenport, also working for the outfitter. By his early 20s, Rand already was a veteran of traditional ski areas, but after talking with Brown, he became fascinated with the Wallowas and the backcountry skiing program Brown offered at his alpine huts.

"There is literally only a handful of people in the country doing what we're doing in the Wallowas," Brown said. "That's what brought him to the area, working for me as one of the ski guides."

Rand ended up working for Brown in the winters and with Brown at Row Adventures in the summer. While working for Wallowa Alpine Huts, Rand had worked part-time for Wallowa Avalanche Center as a forecaster by collecting snow data for use in avalanche warnings. In October 2015, when the Avalanche Center executive director position came open, he jumped on it. After seizing the reins, Rand quickly began giving the center a new sense of direction. Deputy director Julian Pridmore-Brown said Rand was well on the way toward turning the center into a sustainable entity when tragedy struck.

Brown, who has experienced eight similar tragedies over the years, doesn't like calling the incident a freak ac-

are further supported by the Wallowa Valley Arts Council, which sponsors the annual Wallowa Valley Youth Arts Festival, open to all students in the county. That event will celebrate its 27th year this May.

The Oregon Arts Education Snapshot release coincides with the newly authorized federal "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA), which cements the arts as co-equal with other subject areas, such as math and language arts, as part of a "well-rounded education."

cident.

"It was being in the wrong place at the wrong time, and nature dealt him a bad card," Brown said. "That's the worst part about it for us in this sport; despite our best efforts to manage risk, it's never completely eliminated."

Brown said he appreciated the way Rand threw himself into whatever he did and he wasn't at all surprised by Rand's success as a guide and Avalanche Center director.

"People were drawn to Kip because he had charisma. He knew how to relate and he knew how to communicate. In our job you need a lot of personality. As a guide, you're in charge of 10 people, and charisma is the guide's substance. I've had a lot of guys come up here that have the technical skills, but not the personality."

According to Brown, Rand didn't just look at the Wallowas as a resource to exploit for his own personal benefit as a guide. He also was a passionate advocate for the wilderness, as was his nature.

"Our occupation is our advocacy," Brown said. "We defend wilderness areas, we defend salmon in the rivers and we enjoy showing people these resources. We're serving the resources by being stewards. It was a big part of who Kip was."

As for Brown and the rest of the backcountry skiing community, although shaken by the tragedy, they refuse to cave in to despair. A March 13 celebration of Rand's life at the Joseph Community Center drew more than 200 friends and acquaintances from as far away as Washington, D.C., and Montana. They shared their experiences with Rand through stories and connections, which revived the spirits of many, including Rand's family.

"We're upset, we're disappointed, but I know Kip would want us not to mope," Brown said. "I just feel lucky and blessed that Kip found me."



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The
Wallowa
County
Chieftain

CHIEF

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His career consisted of more than 17 years in investigations with the Catawba County Sheriff's Office (192 employees with about 72 working the jail and fielding 11,680 calls for service last year). He climbed to captain of investigations, after which he spent a year and a half as a patrol captain and then captain of communications.

"It's a really great job," Fish said. "Right now I'm over the school resources officers for 26 schools, over the crime-prevention program and security for the courthouse. I like patrol but I like getting out and talking and working with people — I like the interpersonal relationships."

There was just one problem: he wasn't in the West.

"I've lived out west in Arizona and California, and we moved back to North Carolina when I was 13 and pretty much since that day I've been trying to move back to the West. I talked about it all through high school."

Wallowa County, he said, is "basically my dream place. You've got mountains right here, the plains, you've got woodlands to the north, the canyons. It's very diversified. I was always trying to think: would I like to live in Arizona? Montana? But

you've got it all right here."

Fish praised the work of Enterprise Police Officer George Kohlhepp, who shoulders many additional responsibilities during the city's search for a new chief.

"I found George is very enthusiastic," he said. "He's very intense about his job. I enjoyed listening to him and he has good reason to be proud, I believe."

Captain Mark Daniel, Sherwood, Ore.

Daniel, 50, was born in Eugene and raised in Junction City and later Portland. He has been married 27 years to his wife Marilyn and has an adult daughter in Illinois.

Daniel started his career before it was even a career, serving with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Department as a Cadet Explorer Scout from the age of 15. When he got his associates degree in law enforcement, "All I wanted to do was go out on patrol and find a job working as a patrol officer," he said.

The day after he turned 21 he signed on as a reserve officer with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and a year later, in 1987, he was hired by the Salem Police Department.

While with Salem PD he became one of the original K-9 handlers and rose to the rank of sergeant.

He worked patrol, the

school resources unit and took courses in management and communications and business administration.

He was then operations lieutenant at the Portland International Airport, taking command of the explosive detection K-9 team, overseeing two-thirds of patrol shifts and learning more and more about countering terrorism.

"I got really wrapped up in that for a while," he said. "But I was having some impact with folks that I was working with and really expanding where they were as far as leadership goes. I'm all about growing individuals."

So it was back to school for a masters program and then back to work as patrol captain for the city of Sherwood, population 20,000 with 23 sworn officers. He has been in Sherwood for the last 6 and a half years.

When Daniel came to Sherwood he was given to understand there was some turmoil in the community. "I needed to take a leadership position and take the bull by the horns," he said. "I needed to take control of those situations so that people living in the community didn't have to worry about what was going on outside their homes. We've been very successful in that."

In addition to managing the automated traffic control program, the K-9 program and all of the special events, Daniel became involved

in emergency management and eventually took a management position over five counties, where he managed the funds that would be used to create disaster preparedness programs.

In February he switched position within the PD and took over accreditation, investigations, school police, code compliance and evidence. He continues to serve in emergency management and also teaches at the police academy in Salem.

But there was no opportunity to move up to a chief position in Sherwood and his chief encouraged him to look for such a position. He was ready.

Enterprise was looking like a good choice, he said.

"I was hoping to find a chief job in a smaller town because that's where my roots are and George (Kohlhepp) is the epitome of a police officer. As we're driving around everyone is waving at George. George knows everybody and knows their names. George is the kind of guy I admire very greatly because (he) has seen it through. He has done an absolutely fantastic job for your community ... he's got great heart."

Both candidates were apprised of the findings of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police Agency Review Team the city had called in to assess the force after the resignation of former Chief Wes Kilgore.

Governor signs wolf delisting bill

By Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Bureau

A bill that averts an environmentalist lawsuit by ratifying the removal of wolves from Oregon's list of endangered species has been signed by Gov. Kate Brown.

Oregon wildlife regulators found that wolf populations have recovered enough to delist the species last year, which prompted three environmental groups — Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild and the Center for Biological Diversity — to petition the Oregon Court of Appeals to overturn the decision.

House Bill 4040, which holds that the delisting process complied with the law, was approved by Oregon

lawmakers during the 2016 legislative session and effectively voided the environmentalists' argument that the decision was illegal.

Brown signed HB 4040 on March 15 over the objections of environmentalists, who urged her to veto the bill, arguing the legislature shouldn't have interfered with a judicial review of the wolf delisting that they had sought.

301 W. Main, Enterprise • 541.426.3177

BIRTH

A daughter,

Nala NaDeane Speegle,

was born February 24, 2016

in Enterprise to

Aaron and Megan Speegle

of Wallowa.

Grandparents are

Ava Skillings, Suzette Bonneau,

and Sam Speegle.

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Thank You

The Rotary Club of Wallowa County wishes to thank the following businesses, agencies, and individuals for their help in making its March 8, 2016 Shadow Day another huge success. Through their cooperative efforts, 64 high school juniors were able to explore a career of interest.

Schools

Enterprise High School, Joseph Charter School, Wallowa High School, BHF Alternative Education Center

Businesses/Agencies

Amy Zahm • Butterfield Ranch • Triple Creek Ranch • Carman Ranch • Clayton's Custom Cabinets
Community Bank • Creative Tree • Devco Engineering • Double Arrow Veterinary Clinic • Enterprise Animal Hospital
Red Barn Veterinary Clinic • Phinney Gallery • Eduserve • Enterprise School District • Jay Zee Lumber • J Creative
Joseph Charter School • Marcy's Skin Care • Neil's Body Shop • New Heights Physical Therapy
Olive Branch Family Medical Center • Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife • PJ's Cutting Edge • Schaffeld Dentistry
Stangel Industries • Wallowa County Sheriff's Office • Wallowa County Watermaster
Wallowa Education Service District • Wallowa School District • Wallowa Mountain Properties
Wallowa Valley Center For Wellness • Wallowa Valley Health Care District • Winding Waters Clinic
Winding Waters River Expeditions

Drivers

Amy Hansford • Annette Christopherson • Bob Crawford • Bill Finney • Cammie Hale
Diana Wortman • Diane Daggett • Dick Burch • Marilyn Dalton • Evelyn Swart • John Gorsline
Karen Patton • Marilyn Dalton • Mike Koloski • Linda Koloski • Ralph Swinehart
Rich Wandschneider • Rob Lamb • Ted Hayes