



Cowboys and Corvettes

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WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

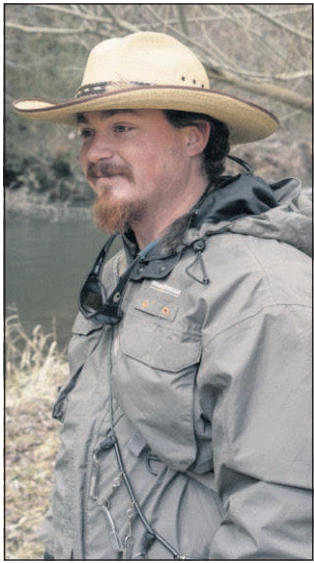


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Nash

Nash named to task force

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The task force set up to re-connect Oregonians with nature now has an Eastern Oregonian on the committee said Scott Jorgensen, legislative aide to Sen. Doug Whitsett of Klamath Falls, a member of the task force.

The task force, set up by the Governor was originally a 16-member group with no Eastern Oregon representative as reported in the Chieftain on March 29. As reported at the time, the task force recognized the lack of an appropriate representative from Eastern Oregon and a correction was intended. That correction has been made.

The Eastern Oregon member of the task force is James Nash of Enterprise. Nash, a former marine, twice awarded the Purple Heart, is also a river guide, fly-fishing outfitter and fifth-generation rancher. Nash, who is son of County Commissioner elect Todd Nash, is also Operations Section Chief of Divide Camp outside of Joseph where he teaches bow hunting and other outdoor pursuits to wounded veterans.

"Mr. Nash has been instrumental in taking off the table ideas that would essentially have been double taxation for hunters and fishers – which is where we first focused," Jorgensen said.

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Finding the balance: Transgender law more than bathroom concerns

Administrators weigh in on rules designed to protect the rights of transgender students

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise schools don't have any transgender students, but Superintendent Brad Royse has advised the school board to abide by a 15-page document issued May 5 by the Oregon Department of Education providing guidelines for how schools treat transgender students.

"I'm sure this will affect us down the line," he said. "We'll need to be compliant with any transgender student's rights, but we haven't had anyone identifying as transgender, yet."

The document, which suggests schools allow transgender students to choose the names and bathrooms of their preference and select the sports teams on which they play, could prove to be controversial in some

districts.

Royse has been approached by several parents who told him they were "very nervous" about the new guidelines, despite the fact that no transgender students had yet identified in the district.

The whole issue seems off point to Royse, who spent his career as both an elementary school principal and superintendent, holding both po-

sitions at the same time for most of his career.

Royse, who retires at the end of the school year after 18 years with the district, said "this is just the sort of thing that pushed me out of administration. I just want to worry about kids passing tests, not which bathroom they go to."

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Classic Beauty



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Winner of the Ragman Memorial Award, this '57 Ford Thunderbird is owned by Guy and Darlene Blakeslee of Boise, Idaho.

THUNDERBIRD WINS RAGMAN AWARD AT THIS YEAR'S OREGON MOUNTAIN CRUISE

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Sleek, smooth lines, bright color and lots of muscle. We're talking cars – and trucks. Specifically the 2016 Oregon Mountain Cruise (OMC) that took place in Joseph, June 10-11. The 27th annual cruise lived up to expectations despite a

dismal and rainy opening day that eventually gave way to clouds, sunshine and a measure of warmth by the afternoon of the last day.

More than 200 cars and trucks lined Main Street and some side streets of Joseph to compete for the "King of the Mountain" and "Ragman" awards. Out-of-towners and locals alike spent Saturday walking up and down the Joseph streets perusing the stupendous collection of cars as well as enjoying the music of The Senders, a classic

rock group from Lewiston, ID.

The usual suspects such as '30s and '40s coupes were in abundance, but a Lamborghini and a 1937 Cord 812 made their presence known as well. Proud car owners sat or stood by their vehicles ready to answer questions and enjoy the warmth of the sun.

The crowd waited in great anticipation for

See CARS, Page A2

County courthouse upgrade in the works

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Wallowa County Courthouse in downtown Enterprise is set for some major interior renovation in the future, county commissioner Susan Roberts reported. Some of the renovations are improvements required by the state in regards to the courtroom facility located on the second floor of the courthouse.

Though the courtroom facility within the courthouse belongs to the state, the county is required by law to provide for its upkeep and maintenance.

The improvements include an elevator to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as upgrades to the

electrical wiring and fire suppression. The county applied for, and received a \$1.25 million fire, life and safety grant from the state to facilitate the upgrades. The only problem was the courthouse roof. The grant funds do not cover the approximately \$700,000 worth of repairs it needs.

Several years ago, the insurer of the courthouse noted its roof was in dire need of repair or replacement. Dire enough the insurers implied they would no longer cover the building without roof upgrades.

"The roof is the most important piece. Without that you don't need the other (improvements)," Roberts said.

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Man airlifted to Walla Walla hospital after car accident

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

A 61-year-old man was seriously injured and airlifted to St. Mary's Hospital in Walla Walla after a June 13 one vehicle roll-over accident on Highway 82 in Minam Canyon. Anthony Michael of Wallowa was driving a Ford Econoline van toward Wallowa when it left the roadway close to mile marker 38, landing upside down and about 20 feet down a brush-filled embankment, resting close to the Wallowa River. The accident happened at approximately 3:25 p.m.

Emergency responders were en route within minutes and included units from Wallowa Fire Department, Wallowa County Sheriff's Office, Wallowa Memorial Hospital ambulances, Wallowa County Emergency Services, Wallowa County



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Emergency responders load Wallowa resident Anthony Michael into an ambulance.

Search and Rescue and Oregon Highway Patrol.

The steepness of the embankment forced responders to rappel up and down the embankment bringing oxygen bottles for the victim as well as extraction equipment to free Michael from the vehicle where he was pinned

inside. After nearly two hours of intensive labor the responders freed the man from the van and loaded him into an ambulance. Life Flight airlifted him to Walla Walla at about 5:36 p.m. The cause of the accident and the extent of the Michael's injuries are unknown at this time.



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