

WALLOWA FIFTH GRADE RECEIVES GIFT OF BOOKS



U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden presents extra books from the Library of Congress to Mrs. Jennifer Gibbs' fifth-grade class during a May 31 town hall meeting in Wallowa.

Kathleen Eillyn/Chieftain

Cemetery irrigation installer contracted

The Enterprise Cemetery Maintenance District has signed a contract with Dale Worden of Hurricane Creek Landscape & Design to install an automated irrigation system that will water roughly 12 acres of the 15-acre Enterprise Cemetery. Hurricane Creek Landscape & Design came in with the low bid for the irrigation project at \$132,986.00. During final negotiations, the District opted for several specification changes recommended by the contractor, which raised the final contract bid price to \$135,565.87.

The system design incorporates 232 pop-up sprinkler heads, roughly 2100 feet of 3-inch main line and 13,500 feet of lateral line and a pump to boost city water pressure to 60-70 psi at the higher elevations in the cemetery.

Work has already begun according to Sexton Perry Davis and is expected to be complete by September. The contract requires that installation work be substantially completed; meaning all components of the system installed, tested, and certified operating as specified, by October 15, 2016.

The Cemetery grounds and roadways will be partly out of service for short periods throughout the summer. Sexton Davis asks that advance notice be given when a service is scheduled so that traffic can be planned. Contact him at 541-426-3826.

Project financing at this point includes, in round figures, \$57,000 from donations to the Friends of the Enterprise Cemetery, including \$1400 realized from a concert performance by Cale Moon; \$21,600 in donations directly to the Cemetery District; a \$2,000 grant from the Farm Credit Administration; a \$5,000 grant from the PP&L Foundation; a \$10,000 grant from The Wildhorse Foundation; and \$10,000 from the Cemetery's General Fund.

The \$10,000 allocated from the General Operating Fund was possible because volunteers have done most of the Cemetery maintenance work for 2015 and for 2016 to date. In addition, several people from the Cemetery support group have offered to underwrite the project via a personal loan to the Cemetery District should fund raising through the summer and available District operating funds leave the group short of the total needed.



Courtesy photo

Public Works Director Travis Goebel and Engineer Troy Baker of Anderson Perry & Associates.

Water project wins awards

The City of Wallowa and their Public Works Director Travis Goebel have won awards for their newly installed \$4 million, 100 percent federally funded water system.

The city won the 2015 Water Project of the Year from the Eastern Oregon Region of American Water Works Association/Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association (AWWA/PNCWA) for their water system improvement project.

Public Works Director Travis Goebel won 2015 Water Operator of the Year from the same agencies.

The city also received a framed poster featuring pictures and a short story of the project.

The City of Wallowa teamed with Anderson Perry

& Associates Inc., to improve the city's existing distribution system and upgrade the well pump station, construct a new well and well pump station, and erect a new welded steel reservoir.

The previous system struggled to meet the needs of the town and had little supply backup capabilities, high water usage, lower pressure, and insufficient storage reserves.

The project included construction of a new 860 foot deep basalt supply well, installation of approximately 10,000 lineal feet of six-inch to 16-inch water line, 6,400 lineal feet of water service lines, 478 water meter installations, 25 fire hydrants, and installation of a new pressure reducing valve station.

NASH

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"He's doing a great job on that and brought up a lot of points that would have otherwise have gone unnoticed."

"My primary focus in this has to be insure that hunters and fishermen who are a primary support of ODFW are not doubly taxed," Nash said. "I've also been looking to protect agriculture and all people in eastern Oregon. My ideas have been very well received."

Task force member Queta Gonzales who works at the Center for Diversity in Portland recommended Nash. Gonzales knew Nash because she was a Six Ranch beef customer. Brett Brownscombe, Natural Resources Policy Advisor to Gov. Kate Brown, subsequently did some background checking to make sure Nash was a good fit and then invited him to be part of the task force.

Nash accepted.

"It's not easy to go to Salem once a month for an entire day, which essentially takes three days for me because of the travel time, but it's important," Nash said. "It's been a

wonderful experience. There's an extraordinary amount of knowledge and experience in the room. It's been really positive."

The task force must find money to fund the move to connect Oregonians with nature through outdoor recreation. How it will be funded, the extent of the funding and which counties will benefit most remain in question.

The governor-appointed, legislative task force on Funding for Fish, Wildlife and Related Outdoor Recreation and Education was created by House Bill 2402, which was passed by the 2015 Oregon Legislature.

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9:00 am at Wallowa Memorial Hospital, Enterprise

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