

Wallowa teacher helping shape state education policies

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

A sixth-grade teacher at Wallowa Elementary School is changing the way the state's deputy superintendent of public instruction thinks.

Annette Moeller, who teaches at Wallowa Elementary, has joined a group of about 20 to 25 teachers, administrators, coaches and curriculum advisers who meet to improve the graduation rate for students across the state. They report to Deputy Superintendent Salam Noor.

Moeller said only four members of the State Teacher Advising Board are from the east side — Moeller and one each from Hermiston, Baker and Vale.

Nevertheless, Moeller said, "We all have the same common vision. I feel re-energized when I get out of these meetings. Also, Deputy Superintendent Salam Noor is really hearing what we're saying."

The group is working on initiatives and policies being recommended or implement-

ed by the Oregon Department of Education. They break proposals down and discuss how they might actually work "in the trenches." By the end of their service (two years) they will have a written report that makes recommendations for changes.

"We look at how these policies work in big schools and little schools or if they work at all," Moeller said. "We're brainstorming on how to make things better."

Wallowa Superintendent Bret Uptmor heard about the board and asked his teachers if anyone was willing to take on the challenge. Moeller thought about it and decided it was an opportunity.

"One of the purposes of the board was to go to the source and learn what really works," she said. "The Oregon Department of Education decided to get feedback and expertise on how best to support educators and students."



Moeller

4H Radio Auction set for Saturday

Wallowa County Chieftain

Across Wallowa County folks are putting the 4-H/KWVR Radio Auction phone number on speed dial.

The 30th annual version of the popular event, which raises money for Wallowa County 4-H programs, takes place from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. As usual, the event will be broadcast live on KWVR Radio.

Look inside the Oct. 19 issue of The Chieftain for a green insert that lists all of the items to be auctioned. The list with photos of items also is available online at the wc4h.com. Check the website during

the auction for updates on bids. Items will also be available for viewing at Cloverleaf Hall on Saturday morning.

Bidders can compete for everything from home-baked goodies, hay, gravel, frozen berries, tools, gift certificates from local businesses and more. The auction works like any other auction, can be followed on the radio or online, and bidders call in to place bids.

There is no need to wait for your item to be mentioned on the radio; 4-H members answering the phones can give the current bid. It is possible for two people to bid on the same item at the same time — in that

case the bidder whose bid is entered first will be the top bidder.

Bidders should call for a bidding number starting Friday at the OSU Extension Office, 541-426-3144. Bidding numbers are required before the 4-H members can take a bid. When phoning in bids Saturday, call 541-426-7778. There are six lines with this one number so bidders should be able to get right through. By the end of the morning all lines may be busy so keep trying, after 11 a.m. bidders may only bid on five items per call — simply hang up and call again. Please give the 4-H member answering the phone your bidder number and

last name, then the item number and a brief description of the item. Bid takers will provide the current bid and you may place a higher bid with a minimum increase of at least \$1.

You also may bid at the Cloverleaf Hall until 11 a.m. There will be adults and 4-H members available to assist you with your bidding. After 11 a.m. you will need to call in your bids so that bidding opportunities are fair for everyone.

The money raised from the auction funds project materials for leaders and 4-H youth. It also helps fund travel to regional, state and national activities, as well as county events.

4-H ANNUAL AWARDS, STATE FAIR RESULTS

Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County 4-H held its annual Family Appreciation Night Program Sept. 25, during which end-of-the-year awards were presented.

- Alumni: Jessica Anderson
- Friends (Business): Triple Creek Cattle Co. LLC (Brent and Connie McKinley and Scott and Kelli Shear); Pepsi
- Friend (Individual): Jean Haefler
- Leader of the Year: Clay Freels
- 2016 Carcass Contest Results: 1st, Will McCadden (\$50); 2nd, Zoe Hermens (\$30); 3rd, Lannie Stonebring (\$20)
- Leader Recognition
- 1-year pins: Emily Cunningham, Ed Gomes, Julie Gomes, Heather Melville
- 5-year pins: Wendy Falk, Ilene Wells

State Fair Results

Horses

- English Equitation (Hunt Seat), Sr: Blue Ribbon, Med. Ribbon
- Western Equitation, Sr: Red Ribbon
- Trail Horse, Sr: White Ribbon
- Senior Performance Showmanship: Blue Ribbon, Med. Ribbon
- Brianna Micka, Brianna (Five records)
- English Equitation (Hunt Seat), Int: Blue Ribbon
- Western Equitation, Int: Blue Ribbon
- Trail Horse, Int: Red Ribbon
- Intermediate Performance Showmanship: Blue Ribbon, Med. Ribbon
- Dressage, Int, Training Level, Test 1: Blue Ribbon, Med.
- Caitlin Robb, Caitlin (Five records)
- English Equitation (Hunt Seat), Sr: Red Ribbon
- Western Equitation, Sr: Red Ribbon
- Senior Performance Showmanship:

- Red Ribbon
- Hunt Seat Over Fences, Sr: Blue Ribbon
- Dressage, Sr, First Level, Test 2: Blue Ribbon
- Other
- Emma Carlson: Animals, Sr, Blue; Gracie Carlson: People, Sr, Red; Animals, Sr, Blue; Greta Carlson: Animals, Jr, Blue; Texture, Jr, Blue; Dakota Delyria: Assemblage, Jr, Red; Scrapbooking, Jr, Blue; Gracie Ellis: Scrapbooking, Jr, Blue; Jordyn Ellis: Scrapbooking, Jr, Red; Zoey Leith: Favorite Recipe Collection, Red; Kaesie Melville: Decorated Flat Cookies, Ph 1, Red; Cookies, Blue; Fruit Leather, Jr, Red; Brianna Micka: Individual Illustrated Talk, Int, Red; Teighter Reuttsch: Assemblage, Jr, Blue; Scrapbooking, Jr, Red; Deidre Schreiber: Public Speaking, Int, Blue; Macrame & Knotting, Int, Blue (CH)

Wallowa Memorial Hospital emergency staff honored

EMT Himes wins Lifesaving Medal; Peck Administrator of the Year

Wallowa County Chieftain

It was a night of celebration and acknowledgment of jobs very well done at the annual Oregon Emergency Medical Services Conference and Awards Banquet held in September in Bend, as two members of the Wallowa Memorial Hospital Emergency

Medical Services team were honored at the conference, sponsored by the Oregon Health Authority.

EMS Director Tim Peck was named "Administrator of the Year" for his "focus on ensuring that the remote, rural patient has access to critical care transport and transfer services," according to the of-



Peck Himes

ficial citation from the Oregon Health Authority.

Peck has been on the cutting edge of technology and practices to improve care for patients before they arrive at the hospital.

Peck spearheaded a project to equip Wallowa Memorial Hospital's ambulances with advanced ventilation capabilities, and was among the first to implement technology to allow EMTs to better treat heart attack patients before they arrive at the hospital for the best possible survival and outcome rates. In addition, Peck is a flight medic with Life Flight Network in La Grande.

"Tim's emphasis on providing the safest, most effective and most efficient emergency care possible in our remote area has made a difference to our patients' outcomes," said Wallowa Memorial Hospital Chief Executive Officer Larry Davy. "We're fortunate to have him in our community."

Peck, who is a 35-year veteran of emergency medical

services, was surprised to receive the recognition. "I share credit with our crew in the EMS department," said Peck. "They are the most valuable asset we have."

A surprised Joyce Himes, who thought she was attending the event to see Peck receive his award, was honored the same night with the "2016 State of Oregon Lifesaving Medal" given to an EMT who makes an "extremely noteworthy contribution to efforts that result in the saving of a life while in an off-duty or volunteer capacity" according to the OHA.

Himes walked into a restaurant with her husband and friends to have dinner when she noticed a commotion at a nearby table. She heard a man yell: "Are you choking?" She went over to see a woman who could not

breathe and was rapidly turning purple. Himes quickly identified herself as an EMT and performed the Heimlich maneuver until the obstruction was dislodged and the woman's breathing resumed.

Witnesses said the situation was quickly deteriorating when Himes appeared, and believe that had she not responded when she did, the woman clearly could have died.

"It was Joyce's quick, caring and competent response that earned her this very deserved recognition," Peck said.

"Anyone who knows Joyce knows she has extremely high standards for herself, and for those she teaches in CPR and EMS training," Davy said. "We're extremely fortunate to have the quality of EMS staff that we do."



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