Family, rescuer fret over missing dog

By BILL BRADSHAW Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — Have you seen an errant, dark-brown and white bull terrier running loose in the Wallowa area? That could be Petey, who has been missing from his foster family since Tuesday, March

Tracy Boose, services manager for Bull Terrier Rescue Inc. PNW, said the foster family was out shed hunting in Wallowa with Petey, and the dog escaped to chase some deer.

"I think they were not paying close enough attention and he had a leash on that was too loose and he was able to get out of it and took after the deer," Boose said.

Based in Puyallup, Washington, she said her organization fosters out dogs all over Oregon, Western Idaho, Washington and part of British Columbia, Canada.

"He came from an area in Oregon where he was living on a ranch and had done really well there," Boose said.

She learned Mia Kennon of Wallowa was looking to foster a bull terrier and Petey had been with the Kennon



Tracy Boose/Contributed Photo Petey, a 5-6-year-old bull terrier, went missing from his foster family in the Wallowa area Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

family for a month and a half. "I thought he'd be a great dog for her to foster," Boose said.

Her organization regularly finds families interested in "fostering to adopt." That means Bull Terrier Rescue provides food and pays any veterinarian bills, while a foster family provides a home and "just loves the dog."

She said the Kennons were seriously thinking of keeping Petey. BTR insists a family does a trial adoption of at least 30 days.

"Sometimes they fall in love the dog and keep him," Boose said. "We try to match the dog with the home and the people."

After a placement, she

keeps in touch with the family to make sure everything works out.

"I want to make sure dog's going to be happy there and they're going to be happy with the dog," she said.

Boose said Petey is believed to be 5-6 years old.

"Petey is friendly, neutered and current on vaccinations," she said. "He likes most other dogs and livestock. He will chase a cat for the chase, but has never hurt one."

She said she's been in contact with local authorities, including the Wallowa County Humane Society, the Wallowa County Sheriff's Office, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Department of Transportation "and anybody we can think of."

Boose said she's losing sleep over his being missing.

"I've never lost a dog in 30 years," she said. "The longest I've ever had a dog lost is 90 minutes. He's eight hours away and in the wilderness. ... I am beyond frantic."

Anyone with information on Petey should contact Boose at 253-341-6632 or by email at rcrtracyb@gmail.





Swinehart Tackett

No foolin', Fishtrap Fireside winds up season

ENTERPRISE — The final episode of Fishtrap Fireside's ninth season comes online beginning Friday, April 1, with readings from Fishtrap friends Ralph Swinehart and Ashley Tackett, plus special guest, Fishtrap's 2022 Writer-in-Residence, playwright E.M. (Ellen) Lewis.

Anyone anywhere can take in Fireside online at Fishtrap.org and on Fishtrap's YouTube Channel.

Swinehart moved to Wallowa County in 1972 as part of the back-to-the-land movement and has spent the past 50 years developing his small farm. He restored his first car, a 1928 Model A phaeton, while he was in high school and still drives it regularly, as he does several other antique cars. He recently sold his sheep herd after raising them for 46 years, and is still a part-time civil engineer.

Tackett is a designer, developer, educator and is fundamentally a country gal at heart. After a two-year stint living alongside snakes, steelhead and turkey in Imnaha, she is presently carving out a life under the warm sun of Mexico.

E.M. (Ellen) Lewis is Fishtrap's 2022 Writer-in-Residence. Her numerous plays and operas have been produced around the world. She has received numerous awards and lives in the Willamette Valley on her family's farm. Learn more at emlewisplaywright.com.

The April Fishtrap Fireside is sponsored by custom jewelry designer Stewart Jones Designs, which has been working in Wallowa county since 1999.

ODOT holding meeting in Joseph on sidewalk ramp project

JOSEPH — The Oregon Department of Transportation will host a public open house at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 4, at the Joseph Community Center, located at 102

The purpose of the meeting is for

ODOT to share information and hear public comments regarding its sidewalk ramp project, which is set for this year in downtown Joseph. Anyone interested is encouraged by ODOT to attend.

For more information about the project, visit www.tinyurl.com/josephcurbramps. There, maps, background information and a meeting RSVP are available. Or, contact ODOT Community Affairs Specialist Vicki Moles at 541-620-4527 or via email at Vicki.L.Moles@odot.oregon.gov.

Webinar on Value **Added Producer Grant Program is March 31**

ENTERPRISE — A free webinar on the application process for the Value Added Producer Grant Program will be held from 3-4 p.m. Thursday, March 31, according to a press release.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development is putting on the webinar and is currently accepting applications for the program, which provides grants to develop new products from raw agricultural products or to expand marketing opportunities for value-added products.

Farmers, ranchers, and owners of producer-based rural small businesses in Oregon that plan to apply for the program this year are urged to participate in the webinar to learn more about the application

Register online and learn more about the webinar at https://register.gotowebinar. com/register/6743351414362308111.

Joseph plans budget meeting April 6

JOSEPH — The Joseph City Council will hold a budget meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at the Joseph Community Events Center. The meeting is a work session to discuss the budget for 2022-23.

To attend the meeting via Zoom, https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/88138754137?pwd=Z3c4WEFxUzdWL-3RqdzhSbkFPSFRodz09. The webinar ID is 881 3875 4137 and the passcode is 269827. The public also is welcome at the meeting in person at the Joseph Community Events Center.

The city's new website is online at https://josephoregon.org/ and anyone can access the electronic agendas and print them from there. All agendas will show on the "Agenda" tab found at the top of the page, but the most recent agendas will also show on the "News" tab at the top of the page. Supporting documents also are available with the agendas.

Chieftain Staff

Earth Day Oregon partners up with Eastern Oregon

By ALEX WITTWER EO Media Group

JOSEPH — Eastern Oregon is joining in Earth Day Oregon for the first time.

Wallowa Land joined the nonprofit coalition this year, and has partnered up with Terminal Gravity Brewing, Moonlight Graphics and Wild Carrot Herbals. As well, Greater Hells Canyon Council and Farmers Ending Hunger — which has several participating farms in Hermiston and Echo — have joined Earth Day Oregon for

this year's campaign. "Oregon Earth Day came about more to celebrate the work that's being done specifically in our state that's helping to conserve our lands and care for a planet," said Sarah communica-Kleinhanzl. tions and outreach coordina-"As Wallowa Land Trust, our mission is to conserve and promote healthy landscapes here in Wallowa County, and so those missions obviously

One of the ways Wallowa Land Trust is raising funds is through an in-person fundraising event on Friday, April

interlock pretty well."

"We haven't had any in-person fundraisers for a couple of years because of COVID-19, so we're really excited about it," Kleinhanzl

said. fundraiser The include silent auctions for

food and beer donated by Terminal Gravity Brewing. Kleinhanzl said it would be "a chance to reconnect with our community and raise the money for our conservation work."

"We're really grateful for the local support," she said. "The three partners that we partnered with have been really supportive throughout the years, and we're really glad that they joined us."

The land trust does not have specific projects for the fundraiser, but money raised will be used to help maintain ongoing operations and contracts with local landowners for their continuing involvement with Wallowa Land Trust.

Oregon, Earth Day founded in 2019, is a revitalization of previous efforts to localize Earth Day in the state, according to Kelly Stevens, executive director. The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, and it has become a global event celebrated across dozens of countries.

"It's not the first time Earth Day has happened in Oregon, certainly," she said, "but I would say that we really see an opportunity to make it a day, make it a time for bringing the state together and to have a really inclusive organizations are in the Portland metro area, but Stevens has been focusing on expanding the campaign to include more rural communities and nonprofits.

"When people look at our website, when they see who our partners are, they're going to see opportunities with conservation nonprofits, including two in Eastern Oregon," she said. "And they'll also see groups that are working to end poverty, spur local economies and reduce inequality. And then, also, preserve our forests and our oceans and things like that. What we're really excited about at Earth Day Oregon is this more holistic view of what we can all do together

every April." Stevens said the campaign has doubled the number of nonprofits outside of the allied with Earth Day Oregon. Roughly one-third of the nonprofits are from areas out-

side Portland, she said. "As Oregonians, we've got a pretty good-sized state, but no matter where we live, we all care about the beauty of this state and our communities," she said. "By supporting the nonprofit partners and the many business partners in Eastern Oregon, people are ensuring that Eastern Oregon







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