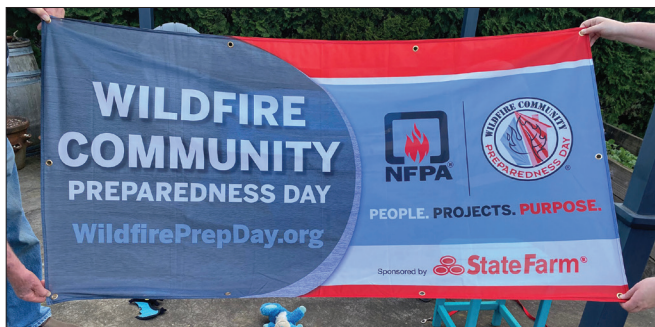


New Firewise Community plans Preparedness Day

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA LAKE — Last year's establishment of a new Firewise Community in Wallowa County is being recognized Saturday, May 7, with a Wildfire Preparedness Day activity at a home in the South Wallowa Lake Community.



South Wallowa Lake Community/Contributed Photo

This banner announces the Wildfire Community Preparedness Day planned by the South Wallowa Lake Community for Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Accredited in August

Groat said the SWLC Firewise Community received its accreditation in August — at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and thus, held no gathering.

She said about 270 residences are included in SWLC, as well as the businesses at the lake. Firewise excludes public lands owned by the county, state or federal governments. However, the state park is helping a lot with concerns about evacuation, etc.

The community's assessment plan describes the Firewise Community as "an unincorporated residential/recreational/business community located 6 miles south of Joseph, Oregon, at the head of Wallowa Lake in the Wallowa Mountains. One two-lane state highway runs down the east side of the lake to the community. ... The SWLC encompasses approximately 820 acres of land total ... within a basin which is surrounded on the west, south and east by the Wallowa Mountains and on the north by Wallowa Lake. The land surrounding the community consists primarily of Wallowa Whitman National Forest, with the Wallowa County Community Forest located on the northeast side. The SWLC lies between Mount Howard and

Mount Joseph and is within the South Wallowa Wildland Urban interface zone."

Prevention plans

Groat wrote the grant to fund the purchase of the steel mesh.

"We hope to protect several homes with the material purchased by the grant funds," she said. "Homeowners will help hang the material on their own deck and then, hopefully, turn around and share their new expertise with their neighbors."

Groat said each homeowner is urged to sign-up with Lisa Mahon at Wallowa Resources to have a Firewise Home assessment completed. The assessment, she said, might recommend limbing trees, removing flammable material from around the home, locating a firewood pile away from the home and keeping grass watered and cut short. A low-cost project might be to pick up winter limbs that have fallen and take them to the county landfill. A high-cost consideration might be to replace flammable roofing material with a fire-resistant product.

Groat said the Firewise Community has applied for a \$70,000 stage grant from the Oregon Department of Forestry funded by the last legislative session.

"Twenty were funded and we, unfortunately, came

MORE ONLINE

A map of the South Wallowa Lake Firewise Community is available at www.Wallowa.com

in No. 21," Groat said. "For now, homeowners will have to fund brush removal on their own. Our alternative to this large grant program was to apply for the State Farm/NFPA grant."

She noted that the Lostine Firewise Community also applied for a grant, which was approved because Lostine had been a Firewise Community longer. The Lostine Firewise Community was established in 2019.

Another major concern is the availability of evacuation routes out of the SWLC. With just Highway 82 running along the east side of the lake, that has been a concern both for those wanting an evacuation route and emergency responders interested in getting in to fight a wildfire.

"This is a concern to residents in SWLC, the West Moraine area as well as the Old Ski Run area," Groat said. "All three groups are working with the county emergency manager, the state park and the Wallowa Lake Rural Fire Protection District to find alternative routes out of the areas mentioned. In SWLC, we are working with the state park to make sure residents west of the second bridge over the Wallowa River at the lake, can drive through state property to access the first bridge, in the case of an emergency where the second bridge is blocked or being used by emergency vehicles."

For more information, contact Groat at 541-969-2439 or jgroat@msn.com or Mahon at 937-418-3620 or lisa.mahon7@gmail.com.

To-go senior meals now cost \$14 each

Senior centers prefer people to come in and socialize

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — As the COVID-19 pandemic winds down, not everyone is benefitting; those who received free to-go meals from the senior centers in Enterprise and Wallowa are, as of Monday, May 2, being charged a suggested donation of \$14 per meal.

"They were free, by donations," said Danielle Brockamp, interim manager of the Enterprise-based Community Connection of Wallowa County. "There was a suggested donation of \$4."

But since the senior centers are no longer closed because of the pandemic, Community Connection has deemed it necessary to charge for the to-go meals, which it did not regularly provide before the pandemic.

"If someone wants a meal to go, they're required (to) pay \$14 now," Brockamp said Friday, April 29.

She said the senior nutrition program's goal under the Older Americans Act of 1965 is to see that seniors are well fed. But there's another goal.

"It's more than just for a meal. It's for seniors to get out and have somewhere to go," she said. "Now that COVID cases are declining ... we want to get back to pre-COVID socialization."

The senior meals are served Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting

at 11:30 a.m. in Enterprise and at noon at the Wallowa Senior Center. Both places cease serving at 1 p.m., Brockamp said.

Community Connection started serving the to-go meals in late March 2020, just after the servings at the meal sites was shut down because of the pandemic.

Brockamp said from six to 12 to-go meals were served from the Enterprise meal site and 15-20 in Wallowa. About 20 people come into the Enterprise site, she said.

But without any subsidization to help pay for the meals and the cost of food rising, Brockamp said Community Connection needs to implement the charge. The same \$14 donation is suggested regardless of the age of the recipient.

"The fully allocated price of a meal is more than we're charging," she said.

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Births

A son, Leland William Lisle, was born April 5, 2022 in Joseph to Kala Grover and Ryan Lisle of Joseph. Grandparents are Terry Crisp, Shana Grover, Andrea Teegarden and David Lisle.

A son, Fable Jo Gustafson, was born April 10, 2022 in Enterprise to Christina deVillier and Cole Gustafson of Lostine. Grandparents are Joella & Steve Arment, Teresa & Steve Gustafson, and David & Susan deVillier.

A son, Cecil Lee Roseberry, was born April 12, 2022 in Joseph to Jenny Augst and Adam Roseberry of Joseph. Grandparents are Robin & Greg Augst, Leita Barlow, and the late Cecil Roseberry.

A son, Rhyker Evan Walker, was born April 18, 2022, in Enterprise, to Chloe Walker of Joseph. Grandparents are Candace and Brian Walker

FOR THE RECORD

APRIL 25

12:12 a.m. — Report of probation violation in Clackamas County.

12:45 a.m. — Report of overdue motorist out of Joseph; search and rescue located the overdue persons and they are safe.

4:21 p.m. — Suspicious vehicle in rural Lostine.

4:30 p.m. — Report of fire in Enterprise.

4:32 p.m. — Jonathan David Manire, 54, of Salem, was arrested by the Enterprise Police Department on a Wallowa County Community Corrections detainer for a charge of probation violation; original charge of eluding police. He was transported to the Umatilla County Jail.

5:33 p.m. — Report of possible predator depredation in rural Enterprise.

6:12 p.m. — Welfare check in Enterprise.

APRIL 26

10:30 a.m. — Report of noninjury traffic crash in Joseph.

10:37 a.m. — Animal complaint in Wallowa.

11:16 a.m. — Request for welfare check in Wallowa.

12:05 p.m. — Public assist in Joseph.

3:50 p.m. — Assault reported in Enterprise.

5:16 p.m. — Civil dispute in Lostine.

APRIL 27

9:06 a.m. — Theft reported in Wallowa.

11:52 a.m. — Transfer from Idaho County, Idaho; public assist for disabled motorist near Buckhorn Lookout.

4:05 p.m. — Found property in Enterprise.

4:30 p.m. — Report of abandoned vehicle(s) in Enterprise.

6:39 p.m. — Traffic complaint in rural Wallowa.

8:56 p.m. — Report of two overdue motorists in rural Joseph; search and rescue activated. Motorists were recovered safe and sound.

APRIL 28

8:24 a.m. — Report of power outage in Enterprise.

10:48 a.m. — Traffic stop in Enterprise.

11:09 a.m. — At a traffic stop in Enterprise, the EPD issued citation and vehicle towed for no insurance.

1:04 p.m. — Loose horses reported in rural Enterprise; owner located.

4:14 p.m. — Public assist in rural Joseph.

4:55 p.m. — Animal report in Enterprise.

8:34 p.m. — At a traffic stop in Wallowa, the Wallowa County Sheriff's Office issued a warning for no tail lights.

APRIL 29

8:26 a.m. — Report of possible probation violation in Enterprise.

8:29 a.m. — Report of a suspicious vehicle in rural Wallowa.

8:34 a.m. — Theft complaint in the Snake River area.

9:34 a.m. — Theft reported in Wallowa.

1:20 p.m. — Records request in Enterprise.

1:32 p.m. — Traffic stop in Enterprise; EPD issued a warning.

1:53 p.m. — Report of single-vehicle, injury crash in rural Lostine.

3:08 p.m. — Report of burglary in rural Joseph.

4:01 p.m. — At a traffic stop in Enterprise, the EPD issued a citation and had the vehicle towed for no insurance.

4:15 p.m. — Johnny Duane Sabey, 60, of Wallowa, was arrested by the EPD for providing false information to a police officer. Sabey was cited and released.

5:43 p.m. — At a traffic stop in Enterprise, the EPD issued a citation and towed the vehicle for driving uninsured.

6:46 p.m. — Report of loose dog in rural Wallowa.

7:41 p.m. — Report of found dog in rural Joseph.

8:37 p.m. — Report of a disturbance in Joseph.

10:39 p.m. — Report of dead deer on Highway 82 just west of Lostine.

APRIL 30

3:04 a.m. — Report of motorist hitting a cow on Highway 82, between mileposts 66 and 67. Noninjury accident; owner of cow moved the cow off the roadway. Vehicle

was able to be moved off the roadway under its own power. Medical and fire were not dispatched.

7:25 a.m. — Loose horses reported in Lostine.

8:22 a.m. — Dog complaint in Wallowa.

8:36 a.m. — Found brown/white stock dog in rural Joseph on Highway 82.

8:50 a.m. — Traffic complaint on Highway 82 in rural Enterprise.

10:46 a.m. — Civil dispute in Enterprise.

11:33 a.m. — First-degree theft reported in Enterprise.

11:51 a.m. — Wolf de-

redation reported near Crow Creek in rural Enterprise.

1:36 p.m. — Assault reported in Enterprise.

1:42 p.m. — Public assist with lockout in rural Enterprise.

4:33 p.m. — Public assist with lockout in Enterprise.

7:25 p.m. — Lost wallet found in Enterprise; returned to owner.

MAY 1

9:07 a.m. — Civil dispute reported in Wallowa.

11:30 a.m. — Lost cellphone in Enterprise.

2:17 p.m. — Harassment reported in Joseph.

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Celebration of Life

Please Join us at the Imnaha Store and Tavern for a celebration of Kathy's life
May 29th at 3:00 PM

Kathryn (Kathy) Fanning

THANK YOU
to the following local businesses and colleges for making the 2022 Wallowa County Career Fair a great success!

- Blue Mountain Community College • Carpet One Floor & Home • Community Bank
- Oregon Department of Human Services • Eastern Oregon Child Care Resources
- Eastern Oregon University • Full Circle Consulting • Genuine Wallowa County
- Heartwood Biomass • Intermountain ESD Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education
- Lewis-Clark State College • Moonlight Graphics • Nez Perce Tribe • Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon State Parks • OSU Extension Service • RDF&P Joseph • Sei Mee Tea
- Terminal Gravity Brewing • The Dog Spot • Treasure Valley Community College
- University of Idaho • USDA Forest Service • Viridian Management & Viridian Construction
- Wallowa County ESD Technology Department • Wallowa County Grain Growers
- Wallowa Lake Lodge • Wallowa Lake Tramway • Wallowa Lake United Methodist Camp
- Wallowa Memorial Hospital • Wallowa Resources • Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness
- Walla Walla Community College • Winding Waters Clinic • WorkSource Oregon

Thank you to these local partners for their efforts in planning and organizing the event:

- Building Healthy Families • Wallowa County Economic Development
- Wallowa County ESD • Wallowa Resources
- Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness