

# Rotary district governor visits home during Chief Joseph Days

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The Rotary Club of Wallowa County got a visit during Chief Joseph Days from its District 5100 governor who was returning to the town where he grew up, according to a press release.

Steve Williams grew up in Joseph, where three of his brothers still reside. Williams attended school in the county and was a member of a prominent local family.

His father, Bill Williams Sr., was a longtime superintendent of the Joseph School District, a founding member of the Rotary Club of Wallowa County and involved in every aspect of community life, including coaching Little League baseball.

His mother was equally active in community groups, as well as keeping track of six children and her busy husband.

The grown Williams children found it natural to be active in their communities. Brothers Bill Jr. and Bob have been in Rotary in the past and are involved in other community organizations.

During his visit here, Steve Williams talked about his experiences as a member of the Hermiston Rotary Club and hosting Rotary Exchange students from the Philippines, Argentina, Japan, France and Taiwan. He and his wife, the former Janet Wells of Enterprise, traveled to the Philippines in 2009 to check on progress



Steve and Janet Williams volunteer at the Wallowa County Rotary Club's Bronco Buster booth during the 76th Chief Joseph Days Rodeo. Steve is the District 51 governor and both are former locals.

Rotary Club of Wallowa County/Contributed Photo

of the water and sanitation project that the Hermiston Rotary Club shared jointly with the Daevao City, Philippines Rotary Club. Their attendance at International Rotary conventions has taken them to Chicago, Lisbon in Portugal and Houston, where they met members of Rotary Clubs from around the globe.

Williams began his one-year term as district governor July 1. During that time, he plans to visit all 60 Rotary Clubs in the district, which includes the northern portion of Oregon and a part of Washington along

the Columbia River.

He praised the Rotary Club of Wallowa County for its service to the local community through the Coats for Kids program, Project Heartbeat and for its involvement with high school students through the Rotary International Interact program and its projects of service globally.

He said his goal for his term of office is to spread the word about the good that Rotary does in local communities like Wallowa County and around the world. He told them he wants to grow awareness

of Rotary's service fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, supporting mothers and children, promoting peace, caring for the environment, supporting education and growing local economies.

Williams said he wants everyone to know the value of service and the fulfillment of working together to serve others.

"When there are more Rotary members working together on projects locally and around the world even more good works will be accomplished," he told the local club.

## IN BRIEF

### Joseph City Council meeting again rescheduled

JOSEPH — The Joseph City Council meeting for August has again been rescheduled. This time, to Thursday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Joseph Community Events Center, according to a press release.

The original meeting, intended for Aug. 4, was initially rescheduled for Aug. 11.

An agenda will appear on the city's website. No reason was given for the rescheduling.

### MG Bailey to perform at TG this summer

ENTERPRISE — One of the musical acts coming to Wallowa County this summer is MG Bailey, a one-man-band from Homewood, Illinois, near Chicago, according to a press release.

Matthew G. Bailey — aka MG Bailey — will perform at Terminal Gravity Brewery and Pub on Aug. 14.

A solo performer/entertainer who, for the past decade has performed weekly in the Chicagoland area and surrounding states, has played venues ranging from backyard parties to Chicago classics like Metro. Bringing a full sound and unique approach that catches an audience off guard and in the best way, Bailey guarantees "lots of laughs and crowd interaction that keep the drinks

flowing and toes tapping." The release called him "fearless and genuine, MG connects and builds a bridge between the stage and audience making any venue feel like home. With six original releases and an epic collection of classic music at his fingertips, MG Bailey is a one-man force of nature that's ready to rock on the spot."

Hear his music at <https://mgbaily7.bandcamp.com/> and learn more at [www.mgbaily.com](http://www.mgbaily.com).

### Church to host free concert

ENTERPRISE — A renowned musician will give a free concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the Enterprise Community Congregational Church in Enterprise.

Pacific Northwest musician John Nilsen is a pianist, guitarist, vocalist and composer. Because his father was a rural minister, he has a passion for rural churches and enjoys playing for their small congregations.



Nilsen

Born in Seattle and raised in Portland, he began studying classical piano at the age of 6, and recorded his first collection of original piano solos, "Sea of Inspiration," in 1983 with Eagle Records in Los Angeles.

At the concert, he will play a variety of music, including church hymns.

The event is open to the community and all are welcome. The church has a ramp for wheelchair access.

— Wallowa County Chieftain

# ADA compliant sidewalk work to begin

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — The long-awaited project to bring Joseph's sidewalks up to standards that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act began Aug. 8, according to a Oregon Department of Transportation press release.

A contractor, HP Civil Inc., will begin work on curb ramps along Joseph's Main Street between Fourth and College streets, and on OR 350/Wallowa Avenue. Main Street also is Oregon Highway 82 and Wallowa Avenue is also Oregon Highway 359.

There will be no work downtown along Main Street between Daggett Lane and Third Street before Labor Day, ODOT said.

Anticipated completion on the entire project is May 2023. The contractor will work Monday through Friday.

The work, while welcomed, has created concern among the business community as some merchants were worried it would dis-

rupt the tourist season. The Joseph Chamber of Commerce and city government worked with ODOT to ensure the work schedule would create as little disruption as possible.

After an informational meeting on the project by ODOT with local residents April 4, the city collected written concerns and addressed them at the next week's meeting.

Pro-Tem Administrator Brock Eckstein said April 11 that the new plan is for work to be done on sidewalks and ramps on the south end of town during the height of the tourist season. Then, about mid-September, ODOT would transition to working downtown.

ODOT also agreed to let the city do its own landscaping work.

ODOT said that during construction, travelers can expect to see minor delays, lane restrictions, sidewalk and crosswalk closures and pedestrian detours.

People are urged to watch for signs, flaggers and work crews.



Wallowa County Chieftain, File

Oregon Department of Transportation employee Grant Sharp adjusts his theodolite transit in Joseph on June 25, 2020. Sharp is part of an ODOT crew surveying and designing new sidewalk ramps for Wallowa, Lostine, Enterprise and Joseph. The new ramps are being constructed statewide to make all Oregon highways compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act. Work has been done in other cities in the county and is slated to begin the week of Aug. 8 in Joseph.

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**Births**

**A daughter, Sabine Lee Bane,** was born July 20, 2022 in Enterprise to James and Michelle McMillan-Bane of Enterprise.

**A daughter, Azarah Lynn Bailey,** was born July 20, 2022 in Enterprise to Jace Bailey and Kiersten Casper of Wallowa. Grandparents are Terri Casper, Gerald Casper, Jamie Bailey and Kevin Bailey.

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