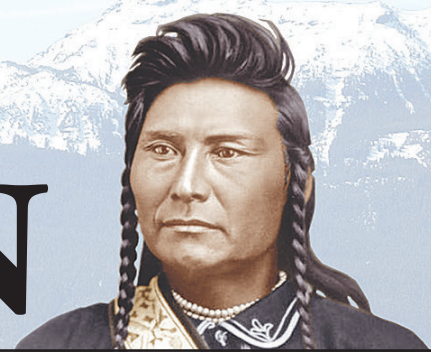




WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

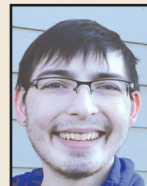


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Wallowa County Voices



Tom Hill
Enterprise

Job brought him home to county

ENTERPRISE — Tom Hill just moved back to Enterprise about six months ago, but he's been in and out of Wallowa County for the past 20 years.

He moved back because of a job opportunity at Viridian Management where he works as a software engineer.

"It was in the stars for me to move back and take a job and have all my needs met," he said.

He had lived in Portland, but he didn't like the big city.

"It was so busy with all the people," he said.

He has several favorite things about Wallowa County.

"I like the sense of community that Wallowa County and Enterprise have always come to offer," he said. "There's not a feeling (here) I've had anywhere else. I've always felt like this was home for me. The views are amazing ... I feel completely safe. I know most of the people around here."

He's enjoyed several things this summer.

"Going to the lake is always fun," he said. "I really like the night sky. I have a telescope and can look at all the stars."

When that hailstorm hit Wallowa, Hill was in Enterprise. He wasn't aware of the storm that pummeled Wallowa until he got home and listened to a scanner.

"My heart goes out to everybody in Wallowa," he said, adding that many friends have gone down there to help and others have pitched in with fundraising.

"It's super cool to see that aspect of it," he said.

He's not too worried about fire season, since the Oregon Department of Forestry increased restrictions because of fire season, but he hasn't forgotten about it.

"It's always in the back of my mind," he said. "Especially in the late summer and early fall when everything's starting to dry out. It's always a worry, but you have to expect it living here."

Hill has advice for people who are thinking about moving here.

"Be prepared to find your own purpose," he said.

— *Bill Bradshaw, Wallowa County Chieftain*

Best in show

Main Street Show and Shine celebrates eighth year

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — A 1934 Ford Roadster owned and driven by Jim Boyer, of Payette, Idaho, was declared Best in Show on Saturday, Aug. 20, during the eighth annual Main Street Show and Shine.

Boyer said it took him and his brother, Jim, almost two years to build the roadster and the Show and Shine was its first road test.

Doug Crow, of Main Street Motors, Enterprise — which along with the Enterprise Elks Lodge sponsored the event — said there were 127 entries this year, a bit down from the first year's tally of 138.

"This is one of the better years," Crow said. "It was well attended, both in participants and spectators."

The sun wasn't shining all day, and as the awards were being handed out and the cruise began, the storm clouds moved in and gave drivers and other car enthusiasts alike a healthy downpour.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Maury Bunn, left, of Alder Slope, talks over Jim Boyer's 1934 Ford Roadster with Boyer on Friday, Aug. 19, 2022, before the start of a cruise to Imnaha from Joseph as the first event in this year's Main Street Show and Shine. The next day, Boyer's car was judged Best in Show when the awards were handed out in Enterprise. Boyer came from Payette, Idaho.

The rain continued as the classic cars and trucks pulled out for their cruise past the Wallowa Valley Senior Living Center in Enterprise and then on to the Alpine House in Joseph.

Skies were a bit more clear the previous day when the event started with a cruise from Joseph to the Imnaha Tavern, where the group had lunch and a drawing.

In addition to the Best in Show, winners of the car show were:

- Farthest Traveled: Robert Silcock, from Bullhead City, Arizona, with his 1969 Chevrolet Corvette. Award sponsor: Les Schwab Tire Co.
- Survivor Award: Ken Bryan,

of Enterprise, for his 1973 Dodge Charger. Award sponsor: Log House RV Park.

- Moonshine Runner: Timothy Narron, of La Grande, for his 1986 Chevrolet K5. Award sponsor: Stein Distillery.
- 1975 and Newer Car Original: Rick Berend, of Wallowa, for his 2007 Ford Mustang. Award sponsor: Cameron's Wallowa County Ace Hardware.
- 1975 and Newer Car Modified: Scot Butner, of La Grande, for his 1980 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am. Award sponsor: Sports Corral.

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Auto enthusiasts and others just out for a good time stroll down Enterprise's Main Street on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2022, during the car show portion of the eighth annual Show and Shine.

Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA COUNTY SCHOOLS

Schools get COVID-ready

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — As Wallowa County schools prepare for a new school year, another look at keeping kids safe from COVID-19 is a major part of administrators' concerns.

Becky Nordtvedt, the new superintendent for the Wallowa County Educational Service District, said Thursday, Aug. 18, that each school district sets its own policies and those plans must be submitted to the Oregon Department of Education by Friday, Aug. 26 — or the first day of school, whichever is earliest.

The first day of school for Enterprise students is Monday, Aug. 29, while Joseph students go back Wednesday, Aug. 24. Wallowa students were to return Aug. 25, but damage to buildings caused by the Aug. 11 hailstorm delayed that to Aug. 29.

The Oregon Health Authority and the ODE held a press conference Wednesday, Aug. 18, to discuss any changes for the coming school year.

Colt Gill, ODE director, emphasized during the conference that nearly all health and safety proto-

cols will be locally determined by district leaders in conjunction with local health officials.

Some statewide rules remain in effect, Nordtvedt confirmed, such as requiring vaccinations — or approved exceptions — for faculty and staff.

But most requirements, such as face masks, social distancing, ventilation protocols and testing for the coronavirus remain in local hands.

Nordtvedt said she is not aware of the specifics of each district's plan that will be submitted, but she believes they're all quite similar, since the county has a number of students who may live near one school and attend another.

"The beauty is all of our schools have very similar plans," she said. "In terms of what things looked like in the (past) spring, I think it'll be similar."

Last spring, the state lifted the requirement that students and staff wear face masks, but anyone is allowed to wear one if they choose.

However, she said, "Things can change if the COVID transmission rates change."

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Hailstorm restoration won't shake Wallowa School District's financial stability

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

WALLOWA — The severe hailstorm that battered the Wallowa School District's campus earlier this month will not shake the district's financial stability.

"Insurance should take care of everything we need. We should be fine," Wallowa School District Superintendent Tammy Jones said.

The superintendent said representatives of the school district's insurance companies have indicated that the Wallowa School District will have most of its losses covered. This means the new roofs needed for the school's major buildings will be covered by insurance, Jones said. She said that as long as a building has a foundation, most restoration work will be covered.

The roof replacement will be done starting with the roofs most seriously damaged. The roof of the high school's gym and of the building that houses the school district's vocation-agriculture and music programs will be replaced first. Next the roof of Wallowa Elementary School will be replaced and finally the roof of Wallowa High School. The goal is to have all of the roofs replaced before winter, Jones said.

Temporary repair measures for the roofs have already been taken. Tarps have been placed

over the roofs of the high school gym and the building housing the school district's vocation-agriculture and music programs. Sealing work has been done on the roofs of the elementary school and the high school.

See Hail, Page A9



Jones

