

**FOREST**

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draft environmental impact statement. Interested parties will have the opportunity to submit written comments, which are reviewed by the Forest Service, and then a final environmental impact statement will be produced. Substantive comments — those that provide “relevant and new information with suf-

ficient detail and rationale” — can be used to inform the final plans, and people who submit substantive comments can object to the final plans during a subsequent objection period. Forest access and road closures were a major topic of concern for many residents during the comment periods on the forest plan revision process. Resident Judy Kerr said preserving roads and access to the forest is important for

hunting, fishing and gathering of mushrooms and firewood. “They are inch by inch restricting more and more access to our public lands,” she said. Kerr believes the Forest Service is listening to concerns voiced by the public, but doing very little to address them. She said they only listen when people identify specific roads with concrete reasons for not closing them. She gives an example of a road

on the Ragged Ruby project, which was reopened after it was shown there was heavy use of the road. “I really don’t think they’re paying that close of attention because that’s not their intent to open the roads up,” Kerr said. “Their intent is to close the roads, and they’ve made that very clear.” Beverlin said the Forest Service does not have specific guidelines to meet in terms of how many miles of roads

are available or which roads should be closed, but the agency must address certain road issues, such as conflicts with other uses, conflicts with wildlife and allocations for special uses. Beverlin explained grazing permittees, search and rescue and fire operations have access to closed roads. Grazing permittees are allowed access to check on herds, perform fence maintenance and deal with other issues that arise.

Resident Bonnie Kocis expressed dismay that some would get preferential access to roads and asked if there would be more road closures after the travel plan was completed. Beverlin said it could happen but only in rare circumstances. Beverlin urged those with concerns about road closures to work through the government’s feedback system to specify which roads they want to remain open and why.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter **Viola Rose of Prairie City, left, shares what she likes about a quilt with Shannon Winegar of Mt. Vernon, center, and Latrona Smith of Prairie City at the quilt show on Saturday.**

**QUILTERS**

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of house fires. They also give quilts for raffles to support cancer patients, rodeo queens and other needs in the community. People’s Choice winner was Faith Hundley of John Day who created a quilt out of heirloom items, such as a World War II parachute, a wedding dress and pillow-

**On the web**

Find more quilting photos online at [MyEagleNews.com](http://MyEagleNews.com)

cases from her grandmothers and aunts. Second-place winner was Cheryl Ringering of Hamilton with a warm-toned star quilt. Youth also showed their creativity at the show with a home-schooled sophomore entering a quilt and Hinton’s 4-H sewing group entering projects in the Crayon Color Challenge where each entrant creates a small quilt based on a randomly selected color. Guest quilting instructor Maggie Ball of Bainsbridge Island, Washington, taught workshops, showing techniques from her book “Bargello Quilts with a Twist,” using quilting squares in a variety of patterns.

**Seneca Oyster Feed**



Eagle photos/Rylan Boggs **Bethany Dempster plays in the softball tournament at the Seneca Oyster Feed Saturday, May 20. See story on Page A1.**



**Brady Long prepares oysters at the Seneca Oyster Feed Saturday, May 20.**

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Registration packets can be picked up at the church office, 521 E Main Street, John Day. The office is open Tuesday-Thursday 9am-3pm. For information call (541) 575-1895 or e-mail Trace at the church e-mail address, [judy@johndaynazarene.com](mailto:judy@johndaynazarene.com)



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**Garrett Lenz, left, serves corn at the Seneca Oyster Feed Saturday, May 20.**



**Sally DeFord batters oysters at the Seneca Oyster Feed Saturday, May 20.**

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