

BRIEFLY
Rep. Bentz suffers arterial blockage

On Sunday, Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario) suffered a heart arterial blockage.

He is expected to make a full recovery, according to a press release from his office. The blockage was repaired through the insertion of two stents.

Bentz's cardiologist performed additional tests Monday. It is likely Bentz will return to the Capitol, if the cardiologist allows, later this week.

"I am extremely fortunate to have recognized the symptoms almost immediately following their onset, that Salem Hospital is located about six minutes from the house I rent, and to have been near a hospital that enjoys and employs absolutely excellent staff very familiar with this type of medical issue," Bentz said in the release.

Bentz said he is very appreciative of the visits, texts, emails and phone calls he has received from family, his friends and colleagues in the Capitol. Bentz appreciates the thoughtfulness of those who may wish to send cards, flowers or other well wishes, but in lieu of these items, he suggests donations be made to The Boys and Girls Club of the Western Treasure Valley or the Southeast Oregon Food Bank.

Sen. Merkley to hold town hall in John Day June 18

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley will hold a town hall meeting at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18, at the Grant County Regional Airport.

He will update constituents on his work in Washington, D.C., and answer their questions and invite their suggestions about how to tackle the challenges facing Oregon and America.

"In our 'We the People' democracy, town hall meetings are an essential tool for me to hear from Oregonians and represent their interests back in D.C.," Merkley said. "I invite all residents of Klamath, Lake, Grant and Wheeler counties to come and discuss what we need to do to strengthen our state and our nation."

Since joining the Senate in 2009, Merkley has held a town hall in each of Oregon's 36 counties every year. This will be his 311th town hall as a U.S. Senator.

Burn bans in effect

Fire season is here, and burn bans are in effect.

The Grant County Fire Defense Board, in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Forestry, went into fire season June 7. No open burning is allowed. Burn barrels are allowed with a permit from 6-10 a.m. Check with local jurisdictions for local restrictions.

All debris and slash burning on lands protected by Oregon Department of Forestry's John Day Unit is prohibited. This includes private ownership in Grant, Morrow, Gilliam, Harney, Umatilla, and Wheeler counties which are part of ODF's Central Oregon District. Fuel conditions and changing weather patterns have increased the risk of rapid fire spread from uncontrolled fires. For more information, call 541-575-1139. This burn ban does not apply to campfires, but precautions should be taken.

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75 years ago
June 12, 1942

Elderly Goat Raiser Held On Assault Charge

People around these parts were wondering this week if goats wield an evil influence over man. During the past two years, two Grant County goat raisers have gone on a rampage with a rifle. On October 27, 1940, Ray Leroy Brown, known as the "goat man" of Miller Mountain, shot and killed Mr. and Mrs. Ira Martin at their mountain cabin. He pleaded guilty to the crime and is now serving a life sentence in the state penitentiary.

Last Saturday, another shooting escapade involving a goat-raiser took place, with the result that John Howard, 70, is charged under two complaints with assault with a dangerous weapon. Appearing before Justice of Peace F.C. Mack in Canyon City Monday, he waived preliminary hearing and was bound over to the grand jury under bond of \$2,000 on each count; bond was not furnished and Howard is in the county jail.

The elderly goat-raiser is alleged to have fired a shot from a .22 caliber rifle at the two lawyers, Roy Kilpatrick of Canyon City and John Casey of Burns, as they were driving in Kilpatrick's car, through Howard's goat ranch about one half mile directly west of Grant High School building, en route to the airport. Howard is said to have had a "No Trespassing" warning in the road; however, local flying club officials claim that he had given written permission for members of the club to use the road.



Eagle file photo

From June 11, 1992: Kam Wah Chung Grand Marshal Ruth Harris sports a Chinese hat donated to the museum by Dave Traylor. The hat is about 100 years old and came from a relative of Traylor's involved in the Boxer Rebellion.

Kilpatrick is happy that his car body was made of good solid steel, because the mark of the bullet, which glanced off to the side of the car, was said to have been in a direct line with Kilpatrick's head when he was driving the car.

After firing the shot, officers state that Howard went to his cabin, got a high-powered rifle and walked to John Day, where he was arrested. Kilpatrick and Casey, after the shot was fired, kept right on traveling as fast as they could, on to the airport and then back to Canyon City — but via another route.

50 years ago
June 15, 1967

State Offers Job Service For County

Beginning Monday the Oregon State Employment Service will operate a regular job placement service

OUT OF THE PAST

securing employment and employers needing help are both invited to contact the office in Keerins Hall."

The placement service being offered is the same as that of any major office of the Oregon State Employment Service. It will include listings of available jobs throughout the state and California, Idaho and Washington.

In addition, an occupational testing and counseling service will be combined with a job development program. Under this program, the State Employment Service attempts to assess the qualifications and potentials of each individual applicant, and then to locate suitable employment for them, either locally or wherever desired.

This service, in reverse, is also available to all Grant County employers. "Every effort will be made to fill county job openings with county applicants. But if a skill not locally available is involved, we will try to fill the job opening by bringing in the needed worker from some other area," he said.

25 years ago
June 11, 1992

Expanded Kam Wah Chung a hoedown success

This year's Kam Wah Chung Festival held in store a number of different events from years past, but still remained a good source of family fun.

In addition to annual events such as the Chinese dinner, the art show and parade, the Festival Association also brought in John Day's Rex Redden

and his Brokentop Lumberjack show, the carnival rides and the food concessions. There were a total of 10 entries in the parade that celebrated John Day's Chinese heritage. Ruth Harris, a long time member of the Kam Wah Chung Festival Association, served as this year's grand marshal and was pulled along the parade route in a rickshaw. Other entries in this year's walking parade included more rickshaws, the local Boy Scout troop, and the Grant County Fair Court.

However, probably the most different event and the most enjoyed was this year's Blue Mountain Country Music Showdown. With the host band, the Dalton Gang from Tucson, Arizona, a total of seven entrants competed in the showdown.

Canyon City's Gary Claughton took the first place honors in the solo-duo category, which the fiddle duo of the John Day's Alyse Nicodemus and Christian Krutsinger captured the second place honors. Brian Demes of Madras placed third and Mt. Vernon's Anthony and Trista Morin came in fourth.

In the band category, the group Countryfied, from Prineville, took first place. Stacy Reynolds and group came all the way from Burns to compete and went home with second place, while the Mountain Swallowtails of Canyon City and Seneca placed third. Claughton also went home as the overall Grand Prize Winner for the showdown.

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