



February 2020

Newsletter

Volume #10 | Follow us on  | SORB

Upcoming Events

Douglas-

-Home and Garden Show- @ Douglas County Fairgrounds **February 28th- March 1st, 10am-4pm**

-Circus- @ Douglas County Fairgrounds- **March 10th-11th**

-Roseburg Spring Craft Fair- @ Douglas County Fairground -**March 27th-29th**

Coos-

-Clam bake Music Festival @ The Mill Casino- **March 13th-March 15th**

Klamath

-Home and Outdoor expo- @ Klamath County Fairgrounds- **March 13th-15th, 12-8pm**

-Monster Truck Insanity Tour @ Klamath County Fairgrounds-
February 29th- 7pm & March 1st-3pm

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Birthdays

February is American Heart Month

Man on a Mission

After his first Missions Trip to Tres Cruces Mexico in 2010 Nick had a goal to return and serve again. He volunteered at Reustle Prayer Rock Vineyards during the 2013 and 2014 Grape Harvest Season to earn the money for his Mission trip. However, there was an unexpected change in his life, and he was unable to leave for his Mission trip as planned. Nick worked hard over the next several years increasing the supports in his life, gaining new skills and building relationships within his church family that lead to additional natural supports.

In the fall of 2019, Nick was invited to complete a Mission trip to Mexico with his church family at Journey Roseburg. Pastor Jeff chose to honor Nick for his hard work and determination in becoming Mission ready and added a visit to Tres Cruces in addition to the original destination of Tecate Mexico. Pastor Jeff planned for the team to travel by train from Eugene to Los Angeles adding an additional adventure. Nick's church family donated funds for the trip funding the Mission.

Nick was able to return to visit the same family he had served with 10 years ago in Tres Cruces assisting with a children's camp at the Tres Cruces Ranch. He helped organize games, prepare meals and clean the camp for 2 days. The team then left for Tecate Mexico with the plan of painting several buildings, however the night before they arrived someone had broken into the church breaking out windows and stole all the sound equipment and worship instruments. Nick and the Journey team assisted in repairing and securing windows and building a cement wall for protection for the church.



Due to the generosity of his church family helping the mission team financially, Nick was able to bless both the Tres Cruces Ranch and the Tecate Church with money he had earned for the trip from picking grapes.

Nick was able to share his passion of worship in both Tres Cruces and Tecate, where he sat in as the guest drummer with the worship team. Nick is now working towards his dream of returning to India for a mission.



'To meet him is to love him'

You can spot Ken in a Lost River hat and polo on the Raiders' girls basketball bench. Or maybe in the visiting students' section or talking to the opponent's assistant principal or athletic director. It doesn't seem to matter for Ken who you are, where you're from or even what school you go to. "To meet him is to love him," Lost River principal Jamie Ongman said. "He's a fantastic young man who has a huge heart and just loves to be involved."

Ken is a part of Klamath County School District's Transition Program for students with moderate to severe disabilities. The program is for students 18-21 with an individualized education program (IEP) and anything but a standard diploma that provides students with pre-employment, living and independent skills.

Lost River girls' basketball head coach Randy Denson teaches Ken in the transition program and asked if he'd come help with the team when Denson was hired before last season. Ken and the team have connected, and what started as a team manager position has blossomed into real friendships with the girls on the team. "They're my friends," Ken said. "I liked them very much. I care about them; they care about me too. I ask them, 'How's your day?' "I like being here and all that stuff," he continued.

Ken is the team manager, but he's also a water boy and one of the team's biggest cheer leaders (Ken makes the distinction that it's two words). But this isn't his first time in that position. Before he graduated from Klamath Union, he was a team manager, and after he joined the Transition Program, Denson got him connected with Henley football, where he was responsible for the team's equipment, sound at the games and water. "It's been really cool to have the community behind this," Denson said. "This has gone beyond what I thought it would be for our community members, our team. "It's pretty impressive that our team speaks so highly of him and includes him, and I think that's the big thing here. He knows Lost River is his home."

Denson said that while Ken's involvement has been all-around positive, it took time for connections and relationships to grow between him and the team. Now, he's an essential part of the Raiders' team. "Our team wouldn't be as positive and as uplifting as we are without Ken," Lost River senior guard Michaela McAuliffe said. "He pretty much creates our team. He always makes sure all of us are OK whenever we come onto the bench. He's at every practice. I think he's the team member that creates us and makes us a team."

The Raiders said his positivity helps lift them when they're struggling or not playing well. "Ken makes all of us smile at practice and during the game," senior guard Damary Roman said. "He makes us laugh every time after a game, even when we lose. When we have our heads down, he brings our heads up and I'm glad we have Ken on the bench and he's there with us, asking us how we are." And it's not just the girls team, but the boys team and the opposing team and just about anyone else Ken meets. "He has administration and coaches from other buildings who know who he is and acknowledge him by name," Ongman said. "It's significant when you have an impact not just in our school but at multiple schools, and that's just Ken."

This is Ken's third and final year in the transition program. He'll graduate this spring and has already started looking and interviewing for jobs, but plans to keep helping with the team if his work schedule permits. "I like being here, seeing all my friends," he said. "I like doing it. I will help out next year."

Denson said Ken is excited to graduate and start working. "It's not about being sad that he's done with the program or the district," Denson said. "It's like, 'This is what I'm supposed to do. I'm supposed to move forward.' "I think it's a very unique perspective that a lot of people struggle with, in terms of moving on," he continued. "It's pretty awesome that that's such a high goal for him and he's obviously going to be able to achieve that." Denson said Ken is always welcome to be a part of his coaching staff. "As long as he wants to and his job allows, he'll always be able to – I will have him on my staff as long as I'm coaching."

By SIERRA WEBSTER H&N Sports Editor



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthdays

Ernest L.	Angel N.	Shaylee N.	Charles B.	Michael K.	Alicia R.	Jon V.	Dawn L.
Grace R.	Daniela B.	Bubba H.	Devin S.	Timothy E.	Kimberly D.	Steven D.	Janea S.
Leilanie M.	Joseph M.	Clayton B.	Matthew B.	Destiny S.	Arthur A.	Daniel P.	John C.
Shaun S.	Raymond B.	Amy G.	Shanna M.	Daniel M.	Taylor A.	Carene V.	Aaron S.
Chad A.	Michael Y.	Michael S.	Jessica H.	Terry L.	Christopher S.	Danut B.	Daniel W.
Pandora D.	Billy S.	Sarah L.	Danielle B.	Melvin H.	Eric A.	Christopher T.	Tyler C.
Brandon H.	Michelle G.	Kristina S.	Braden N.	Anna B.	Ryan A.	Cassandra D.	Jackie C.
Justin T.	April S.	Bradley S.	Richard N.				

