



# Boots, Jeans, and Clearwater Dreams...

Pages 6A & 7A

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# Clearwater Tribune

75 CENTS PLUS TAX  
TWO SECTIONS--SECTION ONE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019  
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OROFINO, IDAHO 83544 - CLEARWATER COUNTY  
SECOND CLASS (USPS 117-340)

## Let the OCI Lumberjack Days and Clearwater County Fair begin!

By Elizabeth Morgan

Preparation begins early each year. So much takes place behind the scenes to bring such an event to fruition. We begin with a salute to the many volunteers between Orofino Celebrations Inc., (OCI) and the Fair Board who have dedicated hours and hours which are often unacknowledged. It is largely due to their efforts and dedication that the tradition of the Clearwater County Fair lives on.

This year's fair and logging show marks the 72nd consecutive year and will be celebrated Sept. 12 through Sept. 15, with the theme of "Boots, Jeans, and Clearwater Dreams".

The barn and the fair exhibit building have once again received a rigorous cleaning and are ready and waiting for one of the biggest events of the county. Excitement builds as children of all ages of the community watch the trailers with the amusement rides arrive to begin setting up at the park. Over the next few days, vendors will follow, filling spaces and the air with irresistible scents of all our favorite fair foods.

**Exhibit building and barn hours**  
County-wide, participants of

4H have been working diligently throughout the year to complete their projects. On Wednesday, Sept. 11, the exhibit building will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for setting up exhibits and checking in entries. The barn will be open from 4:30 to 7 p.m. that evening for poultry and livestock.

On Thursday, Sept. 12, the barn will be open from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. and the exhibit building open from noon to 8 p.m. The exhibit building will be closed from 9 a.m. to noon that morning for 4-H judging.

Friday, Sept. 13 and Saturday, Sept. 14, the barn is open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Open Class judging takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday and from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday.

In case you weren't able to visit on Friday or Saturday, the barn is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the exhibit building from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Please check page 3 of the fair program for dates and times to pick up entries and disassemble booths.

### OCI Lumberjack Days

For those thrill seekers and ride (See...Lumberjack Days and Fair on pg 2A)

## Colpitts sentenced to life imprisonment with 18 years fixed

By Elizabeth Morgan

In March of this year a jury trial found Jessica Colpitts guilty of first-degree murder in the May 22, 2017 shooting death of 23 year-old Samantha S. Fignani. The sentencing for Colpitts, 33, was held Sept. 10 at Clearwater County Courthouse, with Judge Gregory FitzMaurice presiding.

Colpitts entered the court in a smart grey suit, represented by Attorneys Mark Monson and William Fitzgerald. Monson asked for the court to hear the testimony of Joann McPheeters.

Joann McPheeters, a friend of Colpitts for 21 years, and presently a case manager for the Idaho Department of Corrections testified that in all the time she has known her, Jessica had never acted out or been violent. "When Jessica moved to Lewiston to live with her father we lost contact for a bit."

McPheeters said she had spent

almost every day with Jessica during the summer of 2017, and even the evening Samantha was murdered there was nothing unusual about Jessica's behavior. McPheeters stated that Jessica was an amazing mother, very attentive and kind. She also noted that Jessica had been sober for two years prior to the incident.

Prosecutor Clayne Tyler asked McPheeters if Jessica had shared news of Jessica's former boyfriend and the father of her child, JoJo Walker calling earlier that day or if they had ever discussed the 410 shotgun JoJo had left at the house, or if Jessica had shared that she had tried to get two other friends to beat up Samantha a couple days prior to her death.

McPheeters said that Jessica hadn't discussed those things with her, even though they were very close, they each had their own friends. Tyler stated that there were many things that Jessica hadn't shared with her and there was a whole side to Jessica that she didn't know.

Orofino Police Department Sergeant Vincent Frazier was also called to the stand to verify the call records showing Samatha Fignani had received calls from JoJo the morning before her death, as well as describe the search of Colpitts' residence after the shooting. Frazier said he had found a purple tin in Colpitts' bedroom with residue of cocaine on the bag(s). Monson asked if Colpitts had been charged with the possession of narcotics. (See.....Life imprisonment pg 2B)

## Six-day weather forecast

### Wednesday

A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 11 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 76. Calm wind.

### Wednesday Night

Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. Calm wind.

### Thursday

Sunny, with a high near 83. Light southeast wind.

### Thursday Night

Mostly clear, with a low around 53.

### Friday

A 20 percent chance of showers after 11 a.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near 82.

### Friday Night

A slight chance of showers before 11 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

### Saturday

Partly sunny, with a high near 80.

### Saturday Night

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

### Sunday

A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

### Sunday Night

A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

### Monday

Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 70.

### Monday night

A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 49.

Last Week's Weather			
	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Sept. 2	90	57	.00
Tuesday	94	57	.00
Wednesday	92	54	.09
Thursday	90	56	.00
Friday	82	59	.00
Saturday	86	55	.00
Sunday	86	50	.00

  

Last year's weather			
	Max.	Min.	Pre.
Sept. 4	82	49	.00
Tuesday	83	48	.00
Wednesday	88	54	.00
Thursday	89	52	.00
Friday	89	55	.00
Saturday	80	49	.00
Sunday	89	49	.00

Temps. are read the following morning for the previous day. i.e. Friday's listed temp. would be for Thursday



Ronatta and Ryan Norland invite everyone to help celebrate ten years of success at Ronatta's Cakery's open house to be held Thursday, Sept. 19.

## Ten sweet years

By Elizabeth Morgan

The public is invited to join Ronatta and Ryan Norland Thursday, Sept. 19, to celebrate their tenth sweet year of business. Ronatta's Cakery first opened their doors to the community 10 years ago in the shop right next door to their present location of 235 Main St. in Orofino.

Ronatta has worked endlessly to meet the demands of the cakery's ever-growing clientele. Her husband Ryan initially worked a full time job with AAA Precision Tools, and spent evenings and weekends, making deliveries, doing the shopping, and helping wherever he could. Friends and family were also there to help when needed.

As the cakery grew, so did their young family. They were blessed with their son, Nathaniel.

As orders continued to roll in, the Norland's felt they had already outgrown the space they had once thought to be sufficient. Then, the building next door became avail-

able with room to grow. The move would be difficult, but they had created the first shop and they could do it again.

The building was transformed into the new cakery, bedazzled with strawberry pink and chocolate brown décor that was so inviting and that we have all come to associate with the tantalizing treats from Ronatta's, and nobody misses the cakery's adorable pink van en route to another delivery.

To the delight of many, an espresso machine was added, with an area for tables and seating to enjoy fresh pastries and drinks.

Ryan has left his job at Precision Tools and has worked alongside Ronatta for the past two years. As the menu expanded to include an assortment of quiche and other items, so has their list of venues in neighboring communities.

The artwork of Diane Gerot with Studio 205 at Pierce, adorns Ronatta's Cakery, as she created the old fashioned menu boards

and paints the windows to complement the seasons.

Ronatta's Cakery has won the Inland 360 Award for the past three years. The award is hosted by Inland 360, a magazine and website published by the Lewiston Tribune and decided by voters throughout the region on a variety of divisions.

The magazine and website cover events and businesses of all varieties from the Idaho-Washington border cities of Lewiston-Clarkston.

Orofino is proud of her accomplishments and dares to seek a fourth award as this year's competition has yet to be decided.

Ronatta's Cakery will certainly receive my vote again this year. For those of you still deliberating, as well as those who have grown to love our little cakery, we hope to see you at the open house Sept. 19, where your day is always guaranteed to begin a little sweeter.

## We were all heroes once

By Don Gardner  
Clearwater County Emergency Management Coordinator

Everyone who is old enough to remember the attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001 can tell you exactly where they were when the events happened. Thousands of lives were lost that day and thousands more were permanently altered.

The courage shown by first responders probably will never be

fully realized. The police officers, firefighters, EMTs, doctors, and civilians who ran towards the disaster can never be thanked enough. Each and every one of them deserves the title of "hero."

But everyone was a hero that day.

We all took care of our families that day. Parents comforted their

(See.....Heroes pg 2A)

## Search goes on for teen that fell into Elk Creek Falls

By Clearwater County Sheriff Chris Goetz

On Sept. 8, at approximately 3:23 p.m. the Clearwater County Sheriff's Office received a report of a person that had gone into Elk Creek Falls, near Elk River, and has not been seen since.

A 16-year-old male from Deary was hiking with friends near the top of the middle falls when he lost his footing and fell into the water. The friends saw him go in but soon lost sight of him as he went down the falls. They did not see him again after he went into the water.

Searchers on the ground were not able to locate him that evening.

Back County Medics flew their helicopter as part of the search but were also not able to locate him and had to leave the area due to low fog.

On Monday, Sept. 9 divers with Clearwater County Sheriff's Search and Rescue searched be-

low the lower pool of middle falls and dove in the lower pool to attempt to locate the 16-year-old.

(See.....Search pg 2A)



Norman Bond

## Man wanted in Weippe incident turns himself in to deputies

According to a Clearwater County Sheriff's Office media release, on Tuesday, Sept. 3, Norman G. Bond, 61, turned himself in at the Clearwater County Sheriff's office. Bond had three felony warrants involving the incident in Weippe that had occurred on Saturday, Aug. 31.

The investigation is ongoing but at this time there is no evidence that a shot was fired. Bond is being held on \$75,000 bond.

## At the Rex Sept. 6 - Sept. 19, 2019



Daily Showtime 6:30 p.m.  
ADMISSION PRICES: \$5.50 ages 2-11  
• \$7.50 adults • \$8.50 seniors 60+  
• Under age 2 free!  
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### In This Issue:

Classifieds - 8B

Obituaries & Church - 2A & 8A

Sports - 9A, 1B & 10B

Courthouse News - 7B