

# Pett launches practice in Sisters

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Kevin Pett took a long and winding path to the practice of Asian medicine in Central Oregon.

At age 38, he left a successful career in the telecommunications industry to pursue a passion for healing. He went to graduate school and secured a PhD through the International Institute of Chinese Medicine in New Mexico, and studied further at Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in Portland.

"It took me nine years to get to Central Oregon," he said. "Unfortunately I invested in real estate back East."

After untangling himself from his commitments in Virginia, he chose Central Oregon for his practice.

"I really liked my time in New Mexico, and Central Oregon has a similar feel to the high desert in New Mexico," he related.

**“ Almost all chronic conditions are going to be better served by Asian plant formulas. — Kevin Pett, PhD**

Pett's background in Virginia provided him with a challenging test-case for the uses of Eastern medicine — one he worked on in his PhD program: Lyme disease.

"I actually wrote my dissertation on Chinese or herbal medicine for treating Lyme disease," he told *The Nugget*.

Pett actually relishes taking on challenging chronic conditions — 0which he believes are particularly amenable to the Eastern approach, which is to seek the root of a condition, not just treat or manage symptoms.

"Asian medicine is really about why the body is doing



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Kevin Pett, PhD.

what it's doing," he said.

"Almost all chronic conditions are going to be better served by Asian plant formulas."

But it takes a knowledgeable guiding hand to find an effective treatment — you can't just throw plant formulas at a problem willy-nilly or in isolation.

"Individual plant components work better together than they do independently," Pett said.

Pett works with chronic pain, sciatica, lupus, Crohns disease, rheumatoid arthritis and a host of other chronic ailments. He also helps people experiencing mental and emotional turmoil, depression and insomnia.

"When life throws you some curveballs, it can really take you out," he observed.

Pett is currently practicing a couple of days a week at Hawthorne Healing in Bend and on Wednesdays at

Bigfoot Wellness in Sisters. He is hoping to expand his work in Sisters Country, where he feels very comfortable and welcomed.

He enjoys exploring the area, and recently ran Black Butte.


"I've met a lot of people up here," he said.

For more information, contact Kevin R. Pett, PhD at 541-640-9788.

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# Guilty plea in crime lab thefts

Former Oregon State Police forensic scientist Nika Larsen, 36, of Bend, pleaded guilty Monday in federal court, to using her position as a forensic scientist to steal controlled substances from evidence items submitted by law enforcement agencies to the Oregon State Police Crime Lab for analysis and testing.

Pursuant to a plea agreement, Larsen pleaded guilty to two counts of obtaining a controlled substance by misrepresentation, fraud and deception. U. S. District Judge Anna J. Brown presided over Larsen's guilty plea and will sentence her on December 12.

The parties involved are jointly recommending the judge impose a 36-month term of incarceration

followed by a term of supervised release with conditions, including community service.

Larsen's actions had significant statewide impact on drug cases.

A statement of facts accompanying the plea agreement notes that:

"As a result of the defendant's criminal conduct involving the tampering with and theft of evidence in criminal prosecutions, every district attorney in the state of Oregon immediately ceased prosecution of any case involving evidence tested by defendant Larsen at the Pendleton and Bend labs... Every district attorney had to review every pending case where defendant Larsen was the forensic scientist on the case."

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**Half Marathon Race with 1,035 ft. Climb**

This year we are proud to offer a half marathon for runners and walkers that starts at the Corbett Parking area off Hwy 20 and ends at the top of Hoodoo. The course follows scenic trails with views of Island Lake, Link Lake, and Sand Camp Lake with a 1,035 foot climb to the top of Hoodoo at the end. Runners will then walk back down the mountain for an after-race party at the Hoodoo Lodge parking area.

**Registration:** Sign up online at [ultrasignup.com](http://ultrasignup.com) or <http://tinyurl.com/HoodooChallenge>  
Entrance fee \$70 (price increases to \$85 after August 23rd, final deadline for registration is Sept. 18th) 200 runner limit. Runners will be shuttled to the race start.

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Proceeds benefit Sisters Kiwanis community projects & local scholarships.

For more information contact race director: Matt Kirchoff 541-647-7586  
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*Why did the boneless chicken cross the road?*  
Well, without bones, it didn't. **Boneless, skinless chicken breasts are now \$1.99/lb. in value packs!**
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*Camping days still await!* All **TENTS** are **30% OFF**, along with inflatable rafts & accessories! And several brands of T-shirts, tanks tops and shorts for men and women are just **\$2.99 each!**