

MARIJUANA: Voters soundly defeated measure on ballot

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in favor of the measure because she thought the City could benefit and locals who use medical marijuana to treat health issues shouldn't have to travel to Bend to purchase it.

Newly elected City Councilor Michael Preedin said, "I'm not happy or sad either way. I think it's great that the decision went to the people." He went on to say, "It's time for the Council to tackle some harder issues like homelessness and the possibility of establishing a local police department."

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— Michael Preedin

Mayor Chuck Ryan had the following statement for *The Nugget*.

"I think the vote is revealing because Sisters previously voted for Measure 91 at the state level but when it becomes personal for your city, attitudes can change. The voter turnout was statistically significant (1,437 votes) and it was really not that close (56 percent against). So the City will honor the vote and decide at the next Council meeting how to proceed with our time, place, and manner regulations that we have developed if/when the laws change at the Federal level."

Marijuana proponent Diane Goble voiced her

disappointment in the vote.

"I hope after some public education about the medicinal benefits of the plant, it will be on the ballot in two years," she said.

Drew Herburger, owner of the Cascade Trailstop Market on Cascade and also Tree City Organics on Main, which is a business that sells cannabidiol-based products (a non-psychoactive component of marijuana), thought it was too bad that the business people who will be affected the most by the defeat of the ballot measure "had the smallest say."

From a business perspective, Herburger thinks that an affirmative outcome on the ballot measure would have kept dollars from both locals and tourists in Sisters rather than spending their money in Bend.

At this particular time, Herburger and his wife, Erin, have mixed feelings about the outcome of the vote. Personally, they are relieved they won't be growing their Tree City Organics business right now so they will have more time for their baby. From a business perspective, they would have welcomed the legalization of local recreational marijuana sales.

As with other issues that have come before the City Council and/or the registered voters in the city, residents who live outside the city limits may not vote on in-city issues. Those who live within the school district boundary, but outside the incorporated city limits, do not have a vote in city matters.

According to Community Development Director Patrick Davenport the only way that could change would be for areas outside the city, but within the Urban Growth Boundary, to apply for annexation into the city. Once land is included within the Urban Growth Boundary, it is eligible for annexation into the city. Annexation has to be approved by the voters.

Jazz Café...



PHOTO BY RICK JUDY

The Sisters High School Jazz Ensemble played at a Jazz Café at Sisters Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. Chase Frankle gave a terrific solo on the drums. Max Springer and Dalton Gonzales came through on trumpet. Simon Rhett and Connor Martin played sax with Oscar Rhett supporting everyone on bass guitar. Their teacher Tyler Cranor was unable to attend.

FAN receives \$10k from foundation

St. Charles Foundation recently granted the Family Access Network (FAN) \$10,000 to support critical, basic-needs services in Deschutes and Crook counties.

It costs \$100 to provide one child with vital FAN services for the entire school year. These funds will ensure that 100 disadvantaged children and family members living in poverty or experiencing homelessness receive basic necessities such as: nutritious food, a safe place to sleep, warm clothing, healthcare, and much more.

"St. Charles has been a vital ally in FAN's mission to assist the most vulnerable members of our Central Oregon community. We value their support, and look forward to continuing our work together," Julie Lyche, executive director.

Studies show that living in poverty as a child can be detrimental not only to the future well-being of that child but to the community at large, which is why FAN works to

alleviate and mitigate these conditions. FAN continually connects children and families to crucial services that are desperately needed in order to thrive. The funds from St. Charles Foundation will help provide these critical services to our most fragile population: children living in poverty or experiencing homelessness in Central Oregon.

St. Charles Foundation takes their role as a community resource seriously, and partners with other local groups to ensure Central Oregonians have access to important health services when they need them most. They are proud of the contribution that their community

benefit program makes to support a healthy, vibrant future for our friends and neighbors.

Unique to Central Oregon, FAN began in January 1993 and currently employs 24 advocates in 55 public school (K-12) and early childhood sites to efficiently reach and connect disadvantaged children and families to social services. FAN's mission is to offer assistance, possibility and hope to Central Oregon families in need by connecting them with crucial resources that will help children flourish in school and in life.

For more information visit www.familyaccessnetwork.org or call 541-693-5733.

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