



Math major Karl Ludwigsen eats lunch at Carson Dining Hall one Friday.

MIKE PERRAULT | FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

Couple works on world-class tourism stop

BY BILL RALITENSTRAUCH
THE LA GRANDE OBSERVER

One piece at a time, the effort to transform Hot Lake Springs from a former sanatorium and hospital to a world-class tourist destination continues.

But the work is never ending, said Lee Manuel, who with her artist-sculptor husband, David, bought the place on Highway 203 east of La Grande last year.

"It's not coming along as fast as I'd like, but it is coming along. I'd like for it to be done now," she said during a tour of the main building.

As Manuel spoke, Walla Walla County artist Eugene Hayes was hard at work, painting a mural in an area that houses the Manuels' new bronze foundry.

The foundry was a part of the Manuels' business operation when they lived in Walla Walla County. Tours were featured there, as they will be in the new enterprise.

"We're real excited. We had that same kind of tour in Joseph and we want to duplicate it. We hope it will turn out even better."

Manuel said the tours, which take visitors through all the steps of creating a bronze piece, will run three times a day, six days a week.

The Manuels took possession of Hot Lake last

December. Recently, they sold all their Walla Walla County businesses, which included the foundry, a museum, art gallery, and a restaurant.

At Hot Lake, which the Manuels have renamed Hot Lake Springs, a rambling, three-story main building is undergoing a complete remodel.

The building, once considered a lost cause, has been capped with a new roof. Replacement of more than 200 broken windows continues and restoration of lodging rooms will soon begin. Manuel said she thinks she can start renting rooms in the fall.

"We think it will take 10 days for two workers to complete a room," Manuel said. "That could pick up, though. Once we get going, we should be able to get a couple of rooms a week done," she said.

An art gallery is open and running now, as is a drive-up latte stand. A restaurant will open this summer.

A theater, museum, health spa and more will be added as the project continues. No one knows exactly how much the rebirth of Hot Lake will cost. One estimate pegs it at \$23 million. The Manuels are pouring their own money into the project, and getting help from the community as well.

A fundraising effort began last winter with the sale of engraved Hot Lake bricks. Money is also being raised through the sale of room sponsorships, David Manuel artwork, and more. The Manuels also have applied for numerous grants.

About 25 people currently work at Hot Lake as gallery and coffee stand employees, and construction workers.

Residence Hall Return

Students weigh in on the pros and cons of living in the University Residence Halls

BY JOSH GORDON
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

In the Princeton Review, students can see how high or low the University has ranked in certain categories each year. Most might be pleased to find the University is in the top 20 in both "Reefer Madness" and "Party School." Students will also see that the University takes No. 1 in "dorm Like Dungeons."

Loud music, roommates

and small closets are several reasons that living in the residence halls is difficult. Nevertheless, some students choose not to move out after their first year; instead they switch roommates, live in a single, or change halls or complexes.

"There are many advantages to living in the dorm, such as the instant community and connection you make when living with people in a

residence hall," said Associate Director of Residence Life Sheri Donahoe.

Donahoe works hard to persuade students to live in the residence halls, giving returning residents incentives to do so. Her main project is "Room Race '05." This program allows current students to reserve a preferred room for next year before incoming freshmen get placed.

Donahoe is also working to set up the Riley Complex as a returning student residence hall.

Freshman Jeffrey Cervený lives in Bean Complex and said he is planning to live in the residence halls again.

"I am most excited about

living in the residence halls again because it is easy and all the perks you get from living in halls, like having someone else clean the bathrooms and having someone else make your food. Also, it is on campus," Cervený said.

Cervený has already registered online for the room and will be the 81st person to get a room assignment. He said the main thing he is looking forward to is getting a bigger room with more space.

With incentives and easy registration for returning residency, living in the residence halls for a second year might make a smooth transition into another year on campus.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more Princeton Review rankings on the University's dorm visit
www.princetonreview.com.

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