



Rod Chandler photo

Dale Chandler of La Grande examines the steam tractor he co-owns. The tractor has not been used for farming since at least the 1930s.

TRACTOR

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Chandler brothers' family for 49 of the past 79 years. Their father, Grant, bought the tractor in 1939 from a rancher in the Wolf Creek area west of North Powder. Getting the tractor to the Grande Ronde Valley from there was a grueling process. The 25-mile trip took about eight hours with Grant Chandler driving the tractor, which has a top speed of just four miles per hour, over country roads.

The time was lengthened by a number of stops along creeks to get the water needed to keep the tractor running. Dale Chandler said his mother, Arda, provided the fuel needed to keep the tractor's boiler operating. "She brought in wood in a

1928 Dodge coupe, our family car," he recalled.

Grant Chandler never used the tractor for farm work, but he hung on to it for the rest of his life. Bruce Rollins, a family friend who lived in Imbler, then purchased it. Rollins sold it to Stan and Dale Chandler in 2011.

The tractor has not been used for farming since at least the 1930s. Dale Chandler said it would not be practical because modern-day tractors with their internal combustion engines are much faster and efficient.

"It is sort of like a Model T (automobile)," he said. "You could drive one but in a short time you would want to drive something else."

Chandler said Case was one of the leading manufacturers of steam tractors and

that, when in full production in 1913, the company was making one steam tractor every 37 minutes. The popularity of steam-powered tractors began fading in the 1920s with the advent of combustion engines, and by 1940 very few steam tractors were being produced.

Today's tractors can be easily operated by one person, unlike old steam tractors. Chandler said two people were usually needed to run a steam tractor — one to drive it and another to serve as the fireman, who kept the tractor's boiler operating.

Chandler said maintaining the steam tractor has been a lot of work, but it has been rewarding because of memories it triggers.

"It takes me back to when I was a kid," he said. "I get nostalgic."

PETSENSE

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to provide a list of 20 businesses that are interested in expanding in Oregon, according to the release. Buxton works with more than 3,000 retail clients and more than 700 local governments. Using a proprietary software data system, the company analyzes characteristics specific to a community and then identifies retail businesses that do well in communities with similar characteristics.

Among the 20 businesses analyzed by Buxton were Petsense and Big 5 Sporting Goods, which opened last year.

Additionally, Buxton makes the initial contact with the company and prepares customized marketing packages for each business. The La Grande



Cherise Kaechele / The Observer

Petsense will be located at the La Grande Town Center shopping center. It has an estimated opening date for this summer.

Urban Renewal Agency is in the second year of this contract.

Petsense will be located at the La Grande Town Center shopping center on Island Avenue.

According to the pet-sense.com website, the

pet retail outlet does not sell pets. The stores do, however, promote animal adoption through the local community's shelters and rescues. There currently are more than 150 Petsense locations across the country.

NEWSPAPER

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room — and the entire Observer staff — work tirelessly to bring the communities of Union and Wallowa counties accurate and timely information," said Karrine Brogoitti, publisher of The Observer. "The Oregon Newspapers Publishers Association allows our reporters the opportunity to compete for the top awards in the state. They've done phenomenal work over the last 12 months and were recognized for it at the awards ceremony this past week. I couldn't be more proud of our institution. Taking third place in general excellence and a first place award for best writing is quite an achievement."

Kaechele is also very proud of the news

staff for bringing in the awards.

"The Observer challenges itself by competing against daily newspapers for the ONPA awards because we want to have that extra motivation," Kaechele said. "Every year, we bring home awards that we worked really hard to earn. This year is no different. The fact that we placed in the general excellence category is evidence of our hard work and dedication."

The judges of the competition are reporters as well. This year, newspapers in Montana were asked to judge the individual categories.

"The newspapers The Observer competes against are solid newspapers, and it's inspiring to receive awards in major categories like best writing when you have such strong newspapers in the same category," Kaechele said.

CLINIC

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na dispensaries in La Grande, Eagle Cap Dispensary and HWY 30 Cannabis, to put on events.

"We're trying to get some kind of event set up," he said. "As far as the cannabis industry goes, education (is lacking)."

Proesch also said he wants to do community service in La Grande.

"(Things like) going to the city park and cleaning up trash and cooking hot dogs for everybody," he said.

He noted "super simple acts of kindness" like that will help the community understand that those in the marijuana industry are "not just a bunch of lazy people."

What's the difference between medical and recreational marijuana?

The main difference between medical and recreational marijuana is the amount of marijuana one can buy or possess.

RECREATIONAL:

As a recreational user in Oregon, a person can possess:
1 ounce of usable marijuana in a public place;
8 ounces of usable marijuana in private;
16 ounces of a cannabinoid product in solid form;
72 ounces of a cannabinoid product in liquid form;
5 grams of cannabinoid extracts or concentrates, whether sold alone or contained in an inhalant delivery system;
4 immature marijuana plants; and
10 marijuana seeds

MEDICAL:

As a medical user in Oregon, a person is allowed to purchase in one day and possess:
24 ounces of usable marijuana;
16 ounces of a medical cannabinoid product in solid form;
72 ounces of a medical cannabinoid product in liquid form;
16 ounces of a cannabinoid concentrate whether sold alone or contained in an inhalant delivery system;
5 grams of a cannabinoid extract whether sold alone or contained in an inhalant delivery system;
4 immature marijuana plants; and
50 seeds

In addition to these differences, medical marijuana patients get a 20 percent discount on marijuana prices when buying it at a medical dispensary.

— Oregon Health Authority

Air quality poor in Southern Oregon due to fires

By Statesman Journal staff

The air quality in southern Oregon was the worst in the nation Monday, according to officials.

Connie Clarstrom, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Medford, said not to expect the conditions to get better anytime soon.

She said southern Oregon will likely face triple digit temperatures and unhealthy to hazardous air all week.

Nine major wildfires are sending thick smoke into the region, bringing hazardous

air quality to cities including Ashland, Medford and Grants Pass, the Statesman Journal reported.

Officials recommended wearing a mask outdoors and said sensitive populations, such as small children and pregnant women, might consider leaving town.

Most of the major fires have continued to grow, despite more than 5,000 fire personnel and a small air force of tankers and helicopters working the blazes, according to the Statesman Journal.

PETITION

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17 deadline.

Moyal said he originally began the paperwork for the initiative in March but stopped the process in April when the La Grande City Council began official steps toward letting voters decide whether to continue the ban on recreational marijuana.

In 2014, recreational marijuana was made legal in Oregon. However, the legislature allowed counties that voted against legalization to vote on whether to legalize dispensaries.

The City of La Grande voted against legalization by a vote of 51 to 49 percent. This led to the La Grande City Council opting out of the sale of recreational marijuana.

After lengthy consideration, this April the city council voted 5-2 in support of a measure giving the citizens of La Grande the option of repealing the ban.

In May, the council held the first formal reading of the measure, without much discussion from the public or the council itself.

At the June city council meeting, the second reading of the measure was held, and more opponents to repealing the ban at-

tended the meeting. After their testimony, the council voted 6-1 to leave the ordinance as is, with councilor Nicole Howard being the single vote against.

With the initiative's failure to secure 1,200 signatures, supporters of allowing voters to decide on whether to allow recreational marijuana dispensaries in La Grande will have to wait until 2020 to try again to get it on the ballot.

The organizers of the initiative have said all along this isn't solely a marijuana issue.

In a July 2 Observer article, Jennings noted that signing the petition was not an admission of being pro-marijuana: "It's very much about expressing our right to vote," he said.

Moyal said they plan to revive petition efforts again prior to the 2020 election.

Contact Max Denning at 541-963-3161 or mdenning@lagrandeobserver.com.

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2018 Union County Fair Entry Times

Saturday, July 28, 2018

9am-5pm Canning, Home Crafts, Poetry, Textiles, Arts and Photography, Land Products, Flower Entries

Sunday, July 29, 2018

9am-6pm Baked Goods, Cream/Egg Pie Entries
1pm-6pm Textiles, Arts and Photography Land Products, Flowers Entries

Monday, July 30, 2018

9am-8pm All Quilts Entered

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

8am-8pm Open Class Livestock
8am-7pm All Open Class Livestock Allowed on Grounds
2pm-7pm 4H and FFA Market Animal Weigh-in

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2018 Fair

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