

NEZ PERCE

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as a Native American who worked hard to keep the religion of the Nez Perce alive. The faith in question may have been the Nez Perce's Seven Drums religion, also known as the Washot or Longhouse religion, according to www.reference.com. Other faiths of the Nez Perce include the Dreamer and Feather religions.

The display also features photos of a Nez Perce Indian identified only as "Jason" who is credited with being among those of his tribe who went to Washington, D.C., to protest how his people were treated by settlers in the Northwest in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Another photo shows a Nez Perce child in a cradleboard. Cradleboards were once part of daily life for most Nez Perce families, according to www.oregonhistoryproject.org. Mothers used them to carry children on their backs. They were a convenient and safe means of transporting infants. Next

to the cradleboard photo is one of a standing Nez Perce child dressed in decorative clothing.

"As they grew up, children took great pride in ceremonial clothing," states a photo caption from the Idaho Historical Society.

Photos in the display also show a Nez Perce dance and a sweathouse, a structure in which heat and water are used to create steam that cannot escape. Sweathouses were often built next to creeks to provide people a place to cool off, according to www.digitlcollections.lclark.edu.

The photos in the exhibit are all enclosed in protective frames made by Dick Hohstadt, Sharon's husband.

In addition to their age, it is not known who took the photos in the exhibit. Sharon Hohstadt said she plans to send a letter to the Idaho Historical Society requesting information about the photos.

The Nez Perce photos might not have been discovered if the linotype machine had not been so



1. A NEZ PERCE BABY'S FIRST HOME WAS A CRADLEBOARD. AS THEY GREW UP, CHILDREN TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN CEREMONIAL CLOTHING.

Dick Mason/The Observer

A new Nez Perce photo exhibit at the Union County Museum includes these pictures of an infant in a cradleboard, left, and a child in ceremonial dress.

heavy that it was causing the wooden floor of the museum's main building to sag, Hohstadt said. This is the reason the machine

was thus moved to the museum's Agriculture and Timber building where there is a concrete floor that can better support it.

A linotype machine is a composing machine that produces lines of words as single strips of metal. Linotype machines were once commonly used by newspapers.

The new display is not all that visitors to the Union County Museum will notice Sunday. They will also see new front doors that increase the museum's security. Another new feature the museum has is an exhaust system that pushes out humid air under the building. This is meant to keep the wooden portions of the museum's base from rotting, Hohstadt said. The exhaust system and the new doors were purchased with funds from a \$4,500 grant the museum received from the Wildhorse Foundation.

The museum's 50th anniversary will be officially celebrated Sept. 6 when its Pioneer Day will be conducted to show people what life was like more than a century ago. Those scheduled to be present include a candlemaker, a Dutch oven cooking spe-

cialist, knitters, weavers and a blacksmith, Hohstadt said.

The Union County Museum, at 333 S. Main St. in Union, traditionally opens for the season on Mother's Day. On May 12, the museum will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and no admission will be charged. After Mother's Day, the museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each Sunday. The museum will remain open for its 2019 season until the end of September. Regular admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$3 for students, and there is no charge for age 6 and younger.

Hohstadt said the anticipation leading up to opening day is always exhilarating for the museum's staff of volunteers as they take on last-minute preparation challenges.

"There is pressure," Hohstadt said, "but it is very exciting."

For information on the museum call 541-562-6003. ■

MARIJUANA

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drug, said people are not aware of just how potent marijuana is becoming. The levels of THC, the psychoactive chemical in marijuana which makes people high, is much higher than it was even a few years ago.

"This is not your grandfather's weed, or your father's marijuana or even your (older) brother's weed. There has been an explosion in potency, it is a completely different substance," said Shemelya, who lives in London, Kentucky.

He explained THC levels were generally between 2% and 4% when he was a teenager in the late 1960s and early 1970s — today it is often over 40% and rising. Shemelya said there is no database available to indicate to what impact marijuana with such high THC levels has on people and society.

Shemelya is particularly concerned about what impact they will have on the developing minds of youth, noting one's brain is not completely developed until about age 27.

"We have no idea what (the more potent marijuana) is doing to today's young people," Shemelya said.

Marijuana has been legalized for medical purposes in 33 states and for recreational use in 10 states including Oregon. Shemelya said in many of these states, governments are hoping to bolster state coffers with tax revenue from recreational marijuana sales.

He noted, though, it will be some time before it is known how the revenue gained via taxes matches

the cost to society in terms of money spent for extra law enforcement and health services needed because of increased marijuana use.

"We have no data on what the cost is to society and we will not (for) five to seven years," Shemelya said.

He stressed it is too early to draw conclusions, but Shemelya pointed out in states where marijuana has been legalized, at least for medical use, there has been an increase in traffic accidents.

"There has been an uptick in impaired driving," Shemelya said.

He also said that according to workman's compensation records, more people are being injured while working in states where marijuana has been legalized.

Supporters of marijuana often argue the black market will disappear when the drug is legalized. Shemelya said this is not proving to be the case in states which have legalized the drug in part because taxes levied on it are keeping the price high.

"The black market is alive and well," Shemelya said.

He also said governments are not doing an effective job of regulating marijuana at the state level. This means that underage youths are getting access to it.

"Nobody is doing a good job at the level of regulat-

ing it," Shemelya said.

Dale Quigley, deputy coordinator of the National Marijuana Initiative, said it is important to be up front about the dangers of drugs.

"Kids want us to give them truth," said Quigley, a Denver resident.

He said a case can be made that alcohol can cause more problems than marijuana. Quigley said, though, this is not saying much in light of marijuana's negative impacts.

"Which is safer? Walking on a tight rope 10 feet off the ground or 100 feet off the ground?" Quigley asked rhetorically.

Jo McGuire, the executive director of the National Drug and Alcohol Screening Association, concluded Tuesday's presentations by telling a compelling story about how one of her sons became addicted to marijuana without anyone in her family suspecting it for a long time and it led to him becoming homeless. Her son today has beat his addiction and has a promising career but irreparable damage has been done.

"I don't think he will ever become what he could have been," McGuire said.

Like Shemelya, she is worried that little is known about how modern marijuana impacts people and wonders how much ever may be known.

"With today's potency it is considered unethical to study potency in marijuana with human subjects," she said.

McGuire urges people to steer free of drugs.

"The best life you can have is a substance free life," she said.

Tuesday's program, conducted at the Blue Mountain Conference Center, was put on by the Union County Safe Communities Coalition and the Center for Human Development. ■

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Education & Outreach Coordinator, Fungi Perfecti

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- Mushroom life cycle • Fungal ecology • Bioremediation (healing toxic environments) • Bee-friendly honeybee research • Growing mycelia and mushrooms at home

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UNION COUNTY Weed Control
Brian Clapp Weed Supervisor bclapp@union-county.org
10507 N McAllister Rd Rm #3 La Grande, OR 97850 PHONE (541)805-5399 FAX (541)963-1079

Union County wants to help YOU control your noxious weeds!
Thanks to the Weed Levy, the Union County Weed Control Department is offering up to a \$500 reimbursement for treating noxious weeds on your property. This is a 50/50 Cost Share program for qualified applicants, and applies to many different integrated weed management strategies. Weeds required to be controlled in Union County are listed below. Please call us at 541-805-5399, email bclapp@union-county.org, or go to our website www.unioncountyweedcontrol.org for a cost share application and more info.

State of Oregon Laws & Regulations on Noxious Weeds
Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 569 — Weed Control (excerpts)
569.180 Noxious weeds as public nuisance; policy. In recognition of the imminent and continuous threat to natural resources...noxious weeds are declared to be a public nuisance and shall be detected, controlled and, where feasible, eradicated on all lands in this state.

What is a noxious weed?
A weed is designated noxious when it is considered by a governmental agency to be injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, or property (Oregon Administrative Law 603-052-1200). Most noxious weeds are non-native plants that are serious pests causing economic loss and harm the environment. Noxious weeds choke out crops, destroy range and pasture lands, clog waterways, affect human and animal health, and threaten native plant communities.

Designation of Noxious Weeds in Union County
CLASS "A" WEEDS
Class "A" designated weed is a priority noxious weed designated by the Union County Commissioners as a target weed species on which the Weed Control District will comply with a state wide management plan and/or implement a county wide plan for intensive control and monitoring. An "A" rated weed may also be a weed of known economic importance which occurs in small enough infestations to make containment/eradication possible; or one that is not known to occur here, but its presence in neighboring counties make future occurrence here seem imminent.

Russian knapweed	Mouse-ear hawkweed	Common crupina
Common bugloss	Orange hawkweed	Garlic Mustard
Meadow knapweed	Yellow hawkweed	Yellow toadflax
Yellow starthistle (outside the Cove area)	Hoary cress -- Whitetop (within the Grande Ronde or Wolf Creek drainages)	Myrtle spurge (except residential)
Rush skeletonweed	Perennial pepperweed	Velvet leaf
Scotch broom	Giant knotweed	Black henbane
Leafy spurge (greater than 1 mile from the Grande Ronde River)	Japanese knotweed	Common tansy
King-devil hawkweed	Himalayan knotweed	Giant Foxtail
Meadow hawkweed	Hybrid or Bohemian knotweed	Ravenna Grass
	Tansy ragwort	Viper's Bugloss Rose Campion (except residential)

CLASS "B" WEEDS
Class "B" designated weed is a weed of economic importance, which is both locally abundant and abundant in neighboring counties.

Jointed goatgrass	Grande Ronde River)	berry
Spotted knapweed	Hoary cress -- Whitetop	Yellow flag iris
Diffuse knapweed	Dalmatian toadflax	Medusahead rye
Yellow starthistle	Purple loosestrife	Ventena grass -- North Africa grass, Wiregrass
Oxeye daisy (except residential)	Scotch thistle	Saltcedar
Canada thistle	Sulfur cinquefoil	Sweet Briar
Wild carrot -- Queen Anne's Lace	Puncturevine	Sweet Rose
Leafy spurge (within 1 mile of	Houndstongue	Bittersweet Nightshade
	Armenian (Himalayan) black-	