



J. Scott Applewhite/Associated Press, File

The Washington Post counts Rep. Greg Walden, R-Hood River, as among the 27 Republican members of Congress who will say Democrat Joe Biden won the 2020 presidential election.

WALDEN

Continued from Page 1A

Electoral College win of 310-232.

Trump has made an unprecedented attempt to overturn the election result, making unsubstantiated claims of massive voter fraud. He’s lost several court decisions trying to stop ballots from being certified, lobbying election officials to set aside results, then attacking them when they declined his demands.

The Electoral College votes on Dec. 14, then the ballots are sent to Congress for review. Trump is challenging these usually pro-forma steps in the election process.

The election ended with Republicans holding a 50-48 majority in the U.S. Senate. Two seats from Georgia will be decided in a run-off Jan. 5.

If Republicans win one or both of the seats, they will retain control of the chamber. If Democrats win both seats, the Senate would be tied 50-50, with Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, a Democrat, breaking any ties as president of the Senate.

CARTER

Continued from Page 1A

reduced treatment, chemotherapy remains difficult for her.

“I’m going through chemo, so I don’t feel good most of the time,” she said. “The weeks that I don’t have chemo, I feel pretty good, but I’ve definitely lost a lot of muscle mass and stamina. Chemo just takes it out of you.”

The treatment is meant to stem the growth of the tumor. She would need surgery to remove it.

However, doctors recently told her surgery would be difficult at best — and impossible at worst. The tumor is growing on the head of her pancreas, where it meets the small intestine. That area is dense with critical blood vessels and arteries, which make the possibility



Glen Carter/Contributed Photo

Connie Carter of Elgin is undergoing treatment for an aggressive form of cancer after helping her friend, the late Jennifer McClure-Spurgeon, in her own fight with the disease.

of an operation to remove the tumor questionable.

“When we went Wednesday (Nov. 25) they said they don’t know if they can operate now,

because with the cancer being up against the vessels — you have this group of vessels and arteries that feed all your organs in that area, and the cancer seems to be right up against it,” Glen Carter said. “The doctor said he didn’t know if it was operable anymore. Now, if it’s not operable, then that means it’s terminal.”

While it is a dire prognosis, Connie Carter hasn’t lost hope. In fact, she’s even kept working as much as she’s able.

“I can’t do that to people. I can’t not be there for them,” she said.

To maintain hope, she said, she’s turning to her faith. Her husband pastors a small church in Elgin, and the pair said faith is a key part of their lives.

“It’s all about having that faith and hope that God is going to see us

through this, regardless of how it turns out, that God is going to see us through making whatever happens be the best thing. What we want all the time isn’t what we get, but it doesn’t change who God is,” Glen Carter said.

Connie Carter’s diagnosis came in the same year when Jennifer McClure-Spurgeon, a friend of the Carters, succumbed to cancer herself. McClure-Spurgeon, an Elgin High School alumna who served as mayor of Weston, died in February.

The Carters, who assisted in organize fundraisers to help cover McClure-Spurgeon’s medical expenses just last year, are now accepting donations to do the same. To contribute, make a deposit at any Community Bank branch to the Connie Carter Donation Fund.

HYDRO

Continued from Page 1A

and island a house or group of houses in case of an outage,” King said.

The countywide assessment was scheduled for completion by the end of this year, but King said it will now likely be finished by early spring. Assessments will be added to an expanded inventory of potential small hydro projects that could be tied to the existing electric grid and lower landowner power costs.

The county’s history of micro hydropower generation dates back to the early 20th century. In 1921, numerous small hydropower plants were replaced by the Wallowa Falls Hydroplant above Wallowa Lake that ultimately powered four different valley towns.

The topography and water flows that allowed those early hydro proj-

ects still are here, and King said he believes locally owned micro hydro can once again benefit the county with the economic development value of keeping energy dollars local; maintaining essential services during emergencies or natural disasters when the power grid goes down or is shut off; and by using natural resources in ways that sustain the community.

King said regulations on hydro development have become more streamlined for small- and micro-sized projects and new proposed legislation looks even more favorable, speeding development time and lowering costs. In addition, net-metering changes are creating new markets for that energy and more affordable and more efficient hydropower technology is available.

Best of all, King said, costs have come down overall. He said small hydro also can help better

manage streams flows to improve fish habitat, provide educational opportunities for youths and bring in new funding to improve local irrigation infrastructure.

In 2010 Community Solutions, with funding from Energy Trust of Oregon, did a small hydro-electric scoping study for the county that identified 22 potential hydro project sites in the existing irrigation systems using a basic evaluation method. Since then, three projects have been developed — two projects on the Spaur farm between Lostine and Wallowa and one for the Wallowa Lake County Service District. King said development activity at more than 10 sites is currently underway.

The two organizations teamed up again to redo and expand the original study to reconsider original sites and add new sites, look at future sites within new piping sys-

tems, build a database of prioritized projects to better determine development order and create a process that can be replicated in other areas.

To best include the perspectives of landowners, water users and managers, local business, government agencies and tribal interests. The stakeholders help conduct conversations with community members, make decisions and set up meetings.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, King said the first of a four-part series on renewable energy in Wallowa County will be available online via the Wallowa Resources website, www.wallowaresources.org.

To determine if a project is eligible visit https://preview.tinyurl.com/WallowaHydro. For more questions Joe Basile, CSI’s Renewable Energy project manager, is available by email at joe@wallowaresources.org or by phone at 541-561-4426.

MEALS

Continued from Page 1A

contract the virus than are younger people. Gleeson said the welfare of those receiving Meals on Wheels is on the forefront of the minds of the Union County Senior Center’s staff.

“We often call them asking them to see if we can help them get groceries, medication or transportation,” Gleeson said.

The senior center’s food service program recently conducted its annual sale of Thanksgiving dinners. Proceeds went to the senior center, just as the proceeds from the Christmas dinners will. Gleeson said a number of people bought meals not only for their families but also for those who could not afford the dinners. This allowed about 25 of the Thanksgiving meals to be given to families in need.

Gleeson said this reflects the giving nature of the people of the Grande Ronde Valley.

“Our community is so supportive. It is amazing,” she said.

The Christmas dinners will be made from scratch, as are almost all of the food the staff at the senior center prepares. Gleeson said the Union County Senior Center is one of the few community centers in Oregon that prepares its food in this way.

“Food made from scratch tastes fresher,” Gleeson said.

For additional information call 541-963-7532.

Bend woman returns from journey around the world

Angela Maxwell inviting people to join her to walk the last mile of her journey

By Kyle Spurr

The Bulletin

BEND — Angela Maxwell began a journey more than six years ago to travel the world on foot.

The 39-year-old Bend woman saw the global trip as a personal challenge and a way to raise money for a nonprofit organization that supports sheltering and educating victims of sex trafficking.

This month, Maxwell is completing her trek. She will return to Bend the week before Christmas after walking more than 20,000 miles across four continents, a few islands and 13 countries.

Along the way, she raised about \$12,500 for Her Future Coalition, an organization that supports sex trafficking victims around the world. She is still accepting donations online to reach her goal of \$20,000 for the coalition.

“It was a great adventure,” Maxwell said in a phone call. “But I also wanted it to contribute in some way. To find a way to give back was just the sweet spot.”

When Maxwell left from Bend on May 2, 2014, she also left her career as a life coach and business consultant. She sold all of her belongings, except what would fit in a small bike trailer.

“I had to let go of everything,” she said. “I just

have a box of things at my friend’s house. Other than that, I don’t have a car. I don’t have a home. Literally, everything I own fits on the cart.”

Maxwell felt compelled to experience different cultures and support women in countries around the world. Throughout her life, Maxwell has supported women empowerment causes. She previously led an effort called “Project SHE Thrives,” where she traveled to different cities to interview women about how they persevered in life and how they made their dreams come true.

On her recent journey, Maxwell was reminded how many women in the world do not have the same opportunities or freedoms as she does in the U.S.

The thought of how other women and girls struggle inspired Maxwell to finish her journey.

“I never thought of giving up because I just couldn’t bear the thought of failing at this,” she said.

But there were many times over the past few years when Maxwell’s plans went awry.

In Vietnam, she had to stop for a month after getting a fever from a mosquito bite. Her cart broke down in Mongolia. And a few times she was caught in rain storms.

She always tried to carry enough water and



Angela Maxwell/Contributes Photo

Angela Maxwell of Bend poses with a camel on her journey to travel the world on foot. She is completing her trek this month.

food, like dried noodles or beans and rice. She wore out two to three pairs of shoes each year, walking up to 20 miles a day.

Despite the challenges, Maxwell made lifelong friends throughout her journey. A woman she met in Italy asked if Maxwell could be her child’s godmother. And a sheep farmer on the island of Sardinia invited her to stay a month and taught her about the farming lifestyle.

“You just have that spe-

cial connection that lasts a lifetime,” Maxwell said.

Maxwell spent Thanksgiving in Boise, Idaho, with a few friends and is planning to walk the last stretch along U.S. Highway 20 into Bend.

For those who want to celebrate with Maxwell, she is inviting people to join her to walk the last mile of her journey through Bend. Anyone is welcome to meet Maxwell at noon on Dec. 20 outside REI in the Old Mill District and

walk a mile to the Commons Cafe and Taproom by Drake Park.

Maxwell can’t wait to meet with old friends once she reaches Bend. She plans to stay in town for a month or two to regroup after the long trip.

After that, she plans to write a book about her journey. She also wants to pitch a TV show idea that focuses on women’s different roles and jobs around the world from ancient traditions to modern jobs.



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