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This standard, though, is the most controversial: “As measured from the edge of the canopy of the marijuana plants in accordance with OAR 845-025-2040(1)(d), or as amended, all marijuana plants shall be a minimum of 150’ from the appurtenances of all dwellings on contiguous lots or parcels.” In layman’s terms, marijuana cannot be grown within 150 feet of your neighbor’s house.

As previously stated, this restriction was controversial, despite the fact that the commissioners changed it from 150 feet from a grower's property line, which was how it was worded at the first reading Nov. 7. Some important concerns were addressed at the meeting regarding this standard. Current legal licensed grows are grand fathered, but any changes to the canopy will need to follow the 150 feet rule. For example, it was clarified that nonconforming growers can expand their

After reviewing what few changes had been made between the first and second readings of Ordinance 2018-005, the public forum on the matter was opened, and the citizens who came up to the podium gave it a cold reception. Many concerns were raised during the forum, including the long-term impact the RR prohibition will have on the economy; the belief that hemp production (which will not be impacted by the ordinance) generates the same amount of non-grower complaints as the marijuana plants that the ordinance does effect, so it is possible that future growers will simply switch to growing hemp and be exempt from the restrictions laid out in 2018-005; a perceived notion that the state of Oregon will take legal action against the county as a result of the ordinance (which is currently happening with Ordinance 2018-006 relating to fees imposed by utility companies); and allegations that the ordinance will harm local businesses and allow corporations to gain a larger foothold in the county's marijuana industry.

The two commissioners in attendance, Commissioners Dan DeYoung and Lily Morgan, did their best to respond to the numerous testimonies in opposition to the ordinance. “The

DeYoung, addressing the citizen commentators, added, “You’re 50 to 75 out of 85,000, and there’s a lot of people out there that don’t agree with what you have to say here... I think this is a reasonable compromise. I don’t see where it puts you out of business.”

Less controversial changes were also made by the ordinance. In addition to adding several definitions to Article 11.030 of the Rural Land Development Code, including such terms as “Marijuana Production Site”, “Mechanically Generated Noise”, and “Nonconforming Marijuana Production Site”, 2018-005 clarifies that “a dwelling must be onsite in a rural residential zone prior to an accessory building.”

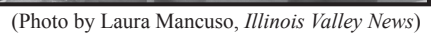
Following its Nov. 28 passing (by a 2-0 vote), Ordinance 2018-005 will be put into effect 90 days after that date, so expect it near the end of February. To review the ordinance in its entirety, visit the county's website, www.co.josephine.or.us, then click on "The County Commissioners" quick link on the left side of the page which will take you to a new page where you can view all seven 2018 ordinances in their entirety as well as a plethora of other information.

To view the entire Nov. 28 meeting, which clocked in at just under four hours due to numerous public testimonies, visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for “Josephine County”.

Clampers help fund middle school art programs



Shelagh Shafer (left) and Ernie Brodie at his 90th birthday party at the home of Reggie Boltz Saturday, Nov. 24.



Humbug Tarry Frank (left) Gold Dust Receiver Bryce Galland and Clampatriarch Gary Rakes of the ancient and honorable order of E. Clampus Vitus met with the board of the Illinois River Valley Arts Council (IRVAC) - Roxy Chestney, Cheryl Nelson, Linda Corey and Sue Brockman - to donate to the Art In Schools program. IRVAC funds the program at Lorna Byrne Middle school through gracious donations for local service groups and businesses. If you feel arts are need in schools and want to help contact IRVAC at 541-592-6222.

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