

Meyer grants awarded

Wallowa County recipient organizations accounted for \$125,435 of the \$7.4 million in grants the Meyer Memorial Trust's board of trustees recently awarded.

At its February program meeting, the board awarded 82 grants to organizations and initiatives across Oregon and

Southwest Washington, three of them in Wallowa County.

The Enterprise Public Library is recipient of the largest award the Trust announced in Wallowa County. The library is receiving \$75,000 to use for installation of an outside lift. Additionally, Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center, now

located in Joseph, is receiving \$40,000 for staffing, and Enterprise-based Wallowa Land Trust was awarded \$10,435 for technical assistance in accounting and financial reporting.

Meyer Memorial Trust, established in 1982, is one of the largest private foundations

in Oregon, with current assets over \$779 million. In mid-March, the Trust entered what it expects will be an eight- to nine-month hiatus from some grant-making while it engages with its partners to reorganize grantmaking into priority funding areas.

WYDEN: Senator receives painting

Continued from Page A1

According to Ackley, Wyden delighted in the gift and again expressed his strong support for reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund. He also pledged to devote time and energy to make sure it happened. "Thankfully, we also know that Sen. Merkley is a supporter," Ackley said.

Ackley emphasized that

Wallowa Land Trust also partners with other entities under the title Wallowa Lake Moiraines Partnership to secure the moraine. WLMP also includes Wallowa Resources, Wallowa County, The Trust for Public Land, and Oregon Parks & Recreation Department. "This gives us credibility and broad bi-partisan support for the project, and we're well positioned to be successful," Ackley said.

Pet rescue group collecting shoes

IMNAHA — Animal Rescue Ranch, a 6-year-old animal rescue organization based at Imnaha River Woods, intends to collect 2,500 pairs of shoes by May 10, a fundraiser for the non-profit.

Shirley Scott, who heads the small Imnaha group, says meeting the shoes collection goal will generate \$1,000 — funds that will be used to construct a special enclosure for rescued goats.

The fundraiser utilizes the services of Funds 2 Orgs (funds2orgs.com), which sends the shoes to developing countries where impoverished people can use them to start a "micro-enterprise," according to an explanation on the Funds 2 Orgs website. "Micro-entrepreneurs repurpose every donation into a new pair of shoes or usable goods. Your gently worn, used shoes still have life-changing impact left in them," the site states.

An organization such as Animal Rescue Ranch is paid for providing a large number of gently worn shoes to the cause.

Scott says people can donate all kinds of shoes, including everything from flip-

flops and slippers, to cowboy boots, hiking boots and high heels. Men's, women's and children's styles and sizes are all acceptable. Donations can be dropped off in Enterprise at the home of her son, Jason Scott, at 703 Hurricane Creek Road (first lot on the left after making the turn onto Hurricane Creek Road from Highway 82). Donors can simply place those shoes on the front porch. To make other arrangements, leave a message for Shirley Scott at 541-577-3051.

Although the ranch's primary focus is more conventional pets — that is, cats and dogs — Scott says the organization also involves itself in finding "forever" homes for other animal species, including, for example, goats and on one memorable occasion eight steer.

Among Animal Rescue Ranch's other assistance activities, Scott says, the group seeks to help low-income, elderly pet owners in times of special need — covering the cost of pet food or veterinary care, for example, if the person is struggling with personal medical bills.



Donna Lasater photo

Shirley Scott with Chubby, a dog Animal Rescue Ranch has kept because health problems made him ineligible for adoption.

More information about the all-volunteer group can be found at its website, animal-rescueranch.com.

Maxville Heritage, Experience Works team up

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

The Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center and Experience Works need a few good people interested in working — specifically, people age 55 or older.

MHIC is a non-profit dedicated to preserving the multi-cultural heritage and history of Maxville, a former Wallowa County logging town with a significant African-American population. Experience Works (formerly Green Thumb) is a federally funded job training program for low-income senior workers.

Janet Standeford, the Experience Works representative for the region, said, "We work with government agencies or 501c3 agencies. We assign volunteers to qualifying agencies for training. The agency doesn't pay them anything; we pay the workers directly for the time they put in. We also work with employers to promote hiring of our participants."

Participants need to meet several criteria, including: age 55 or older, unemployed, income 125 percent or less of poverty level, and residency within the county where applying, among other criteria. Standeford added the program runs on a "first come-first

served" basis, although veterans receive priority.

EW analyzes the applicant's current skill level and their job goal, and compares those to what host agencies can offer. Standeford said agencies offer a wide range of training, such as administrative, janitorial and even grant-writing. EW sees applicants from all walks of life, particularly people unable to perform physically demanding jobs.

EW monitors placed applicants for three to six months to see if clients make a good fit with their host agency. Those clients not making a good fit get transferred to another host agency. EW also encourages upward mobility by asking a host agency to provide more training if a client wishes to pursue higher career goals than they started with. "Most host agencies are ready and willing to give that opportunity," Standeford said.

Clients can receive up to four years of training although Standeford said the goal is to get clients trained and in the job market within 18 months. EW trainees earn Oregon minimum wage (\$9.25/hr) and work an average of 20 hours per week.

Applicants need not worry if they have lagging computer skills. EW puts such clients through a rigorous computer

training program to get them up to par.

MHIC Executive Director Gwendolyn Trice started the program in November 2014 and works 21 hours per week at minimum wage while receiving project manager training through Experience Works. "We're actually looking for two positions. We need someone immediately, and another for when I start getting paid by the center in April (through a staffing grant by the Meyer Memorial Trust). This way we'll have two people working opposite each other," Trice said.

Trice built a job description as an administrative assistant

that she submitted to Experience Works. The goal is to pull in people familiar with those job skills and who are flexible and teachable. "As they work with me and the other volunteers who come, they'll learn more about the work we do. We want them to fall in love with what we're doing from the inside out," Trice said.

To participate or learn more about the EW program as either client or employer, phone 541-850-4573.

Thank You

We wish to express heartfelt gratitude to all of Dick's friends who came to see him at the hospital. All the hospital staff, nurses and doctors who took part in his care, especially Dr. De Young. A difficult time was eased by your caring compassion. The many friends and Lee Bollman who stepped up to take part in arranging and conducting his memorial service, meal and burial, are so very appreciated. It was a tremendous blessing to feel that level of support and caring.

The Family of
Dick Hammond

Thank You

The Family of
Herald Chitwood would like to thank everyone from Imnaha to Canada for the prayers, phone calls, food, flowers and the visits during a very hard time. You'll never know how much it meant to all of us.

Thanks again,
The Herald Chitwood Family



M. CROW · LOSTINE, OR

OREPAC

Superior selection of interior and exterior doors that are resilient and high quality



Find OrePac
Interior & Exterior Doors
with Prefinishing
available at



MAIN STREET
JOSEPH
541-432-1917

Coming April 1, 2015
NEW LOCATION!
501 W North St, Enterprise



541-426-4806

Open 10-8 Mon-Thurs
10-9 Friday
11-9 Sat
11-8 Sun

Same Pizza, Smoothies, Espresso & More
But with a drive-thru!

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR PROPERTY?

I will provide high quality promotion of your property through websites, social media and beautiful printed materials. Call me for a FREE market analysis to help determine price.



"Anette is an extremely professional real estate broker who undertook the marketing and sale of our house very capably. Great marketing skills are combined with an eye for detail and an excellent approach to contracts and negotiation. Our transaction was able to therefore be accomplished with the minimum of ease for both buyer and seller."

— Jim and Julie Zacharias, Joseph, OR



Call Anette at 541-398-1148

email: anette.realtor@gmail.com
www.wallowamountainproperties.com

309 S. RIVER ST, SUITE D ENTERPRISE, OR 97828
203 N. MAIN ST, #5 JOSEPH, OR 97846
541-427-3026 541-432-7653