

Christmas comes early to Wallowa County museum

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Wallowa County Museum was recently on the receiving end of good fortune with the acquisition of several grants as well as a very generous allocation from a trust. Wallowa County Commissioner Susan Roberts, who acts as a liaison between the county commissioners and the museum board, said the museum already has the grant funds earmarked for its building restoration project.

"The Friends of the Museum had applied for some grants with different entities, and received some of them. Together, they amounted to about \$30,000," Roberts said. She added that a contractor was hired to do facade work on the building. "It's looking real nice on the outside."

The museum still needs work done on the inside, particularly on the windows, as they have fallen into a state of disrepair. Roberts said window replacement guidelines are very strict on historic buildings such as the museum. She also said some blinds need replacing and noted with some amusement that two of the facility's windows were put in backward. "Every contractor who walks in here notices that right off the bat," Roberts said. She added that most of the window work would involve replacing the glass rather than the casings.

Another problem the museum hopes to address is the building's lack of separate heat or air conditioning. Roberts cited the lack of climate control as one of several reasons the museum is closed in the winter except by special appointment. She also mentioned that some interior repairs could help the museum host more events. "It's a great old building, and most of the people who have served on the board consider the building an integral part of the museum itself."



Wallowa County Museum, located at 110 S. Main St. in Joseph, will look even better soon, thanks to a number of grants and a dispensation from a trust.

Steve Tool/Chieftain

Roberts also revealed the museum received funds from a trust of longtime residents Clyde and Helen Stonebrink. Roberts said she was notified the Stonebrinks' trust account has selected the museum for a six percent cut of the estate's first \$800,000. The award amounted to \$48,484.85. "It's humbling to know that someone cared that much about the museum," Roberts said.

The museum board has already received the check, which was deposited into county funds in a line item for the museum to be used for special projects. Roberts said what's particularly exciting is that some of the larger renovation grants take either dollar-for-dollar or percentage matches. "There isn't any way the museum on its own could

sponsor a percentage match for a \$400,000 or \$500,000 grant," Roberts said. Along with the new grants and the donation from the Stonebrinks, Roberts thought others deserved praise as well for their contributions. "Over the years, the board members and volunteers have done an outstanding job keeping things together. It's really a labor of love," she said.

OBITUARIES

Susan Collett
April 19, 1948 - Aug. 12, 2015

Susan McKean-Collett, 67, died unexpectedly in her sleep on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2015 at her home in Joseph.

She was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, on April 19, 1948, the first child of Norma Parker and Alvin Burnham McKean. She was raised in Holladay, Utah, where she attended Cottonwood Elementary and Olympus High School. She studied at Dixie State College, the University of Utah and later Salt Lake Community College.

As a child, Susan revealed a natural talent as an artist, and for the remainder of her life, she channeled her profound artistry and fiery empathy into her work. She earned accolades for her early pencil and charcoal drawings, and her figures and portraits were carried in galleries around Utah and the West. Later, she discovered oil painting, as well, and it was through this medium that she met her husband, Sam Collett, then her art teacher. Drawn by their mutual love of nature, Susan and Sam moved to Joseph. There, Susan developed her talents as a watercolorist while also hosting a guest lodge with Sam on the shores of Wallowa Lake.

In her final years, Susan became a vibrant and accomplished jeweler, and her animated, loving spirit lives on in the beautiful handiwork she leaves behind for her family, friends and strangers alike.

Susan was preceded in death by her infant sister, Shelly; her father, Al; and her poodles, Becky, Mary, and J.B. She is survived by her husband, Sam Collett; her children, Isaac Tolpinrud (father-Randal) and Ruby Johnson (father-Richard), her stepson, Jake Collett; her mother, Norma McKean; her sister, Claire McKean-Pitt (Rip); her brothers, Kelly McKean (Barbara) and Duncan McKean (Betty); and her nephews, Shane Edwards and Wyatt McKean. She also leaves behind her beloved dogs, Louie and Andre, and a loving circle of friends around Joseph and Salt Lake City.

Services will be held at the Wallowa Buddhist Temple, 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, followed by a celebration of Susan's life, 4 p.m. at the Joseph Center for Arts and Culture.

Bollman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

A fund has been established in Susan's name at Community Bank in Joseph to help defray the costs of her funeral. Donations are welcome.



DEATH NOTICES

Donald Wilson

Donald Wilson, 93, of Wallowa, died Aug. 14, 2015 at Kadlec Hospital, Richland, Wash. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 29 at Wallowa High School. A complete obituary will be published in the Chieftain next week. Bollman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ronald "Bud" Botts

Ronald "Bud" Botts, of Joseph, died at his home Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015. A celebration of his life will be held at the Thunder Room, Joseph Roundup Grounds, 11 a.m. Aug. 22. A full obituary will be published at a later date.

High and Low Temperatures

Courtesy of Weather Underground. www.wunderground.com

Enterprise			Lostine		
Date	Low	High	Date	Low	High
August 12	55	98	August 12	55	98
August 13	53	100	August 13	53	100
August 14	55	96	August 14	55	96
August 15	46	80	August 15	46	80
August 16	46	82	August 16	46	82
August 17	44	82	August 17	44	82
August 18	46	62	August 18	46	62

Joseph			Wallowa		
Date	Low	High	Date	Low	High
August 12	55	98	August 12	55	98
August 13	53	100	August 13	53	100
August 14	55	96	August 14	55	96
August 15	46	80	August 15	46	80
August 16	46	82	August 16	46	82
August 17	44	82	August 17	44	82
August 18	46	62	August 18	46	62

Imnaha			Troy		
Date	Low	High	Date	Low	High
August 12	69	94	August 12	55	98
August 13	57	98	August 13	53	100
August 14	63	97	August 14	55	96
August 15	53	81	August 15	46	80
August 16	49	77	August 16	46	82
August 17	47	78	August 17	44	82
August 18	50	72	August 18	46	62

Six-day forecast

August 19 - August 19
Source: Weather Underground

Aug. 19:		H: 86 L: 48	Clear
Aug. 20:		H: 85 L: 45	Clear
Aug. 21:		H: 70 L: 39	Clear
Aug. 22:		H: 77 L: 38	Clear
Aug. 23:		H: 86 L: 44	Clear
Aug. 24:		H: 86 L: 46	Partly Cloudy

Phases of the moon

Aug. 22	Aug. 29	Sept. 5	Sept. 13
1st Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon

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