

CITY

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The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program (HIDTA) is a drug-prohibition enforcement program run by the United States Office of National Drug Control Policy. It was established in 1990 after the Anti-Drug Abuse Act

of 1988 was passed.

Councilor Stacy Karvoski reminded fellow councilors that they had a variety of reasons they were opting out and that the important thing was to get the document approved.

"I don't know (the wording) 'the danger' needs to be there," Karvoski said. "It doesn't do anything to the teeth of the ordinance that prohibits the licensing. It's

not a required finding. The thing is, we're dealing with a licensing issue until we find out what the state is doing."

Councilor Laura Miller agreed that the information received from Colorado showed a danger, but also agreed that passage of the ordinance was their goal for the evening.

"If we take that (danger clause) out it does not effect the meat of this ordinance," she said.

Lear agreed that the information from Colorado was "solid," but that a lot more information was needed in addition to that document. The time to bring in all information was in the future if the Council were again faced with legalization of licensing, he said.

With that possible future in mind, Councilor Bill Coffin asked for clarification on the process of opting back in.

City Attorney Roland Johnson informed the Council that after review of HB3400 (the legislation that permitted the opt out) he could find no official details about opting back in.

"The opt-out provision said the city, under our circumstances, may prohibit enumerated uses (the same ones covered in the ordinance)," Johnson said. "We could pass an ordinance lat-

er, if we chose, repealing this ordinance and we would opt back in — but there are no details about that, there is nothing in that state law about opting back in."

The Council then agreed that the "danger" clause could be removed without changing the effect of the law and the opt-out ordinance passed unanimously, as was required. It will take immediate effect.

Enterprise police chief application deadline near

Wallowa County Chieftain

The search for a new police chief in Enterprise continues, with the closing date for applications set for Dec. 28.

Numerous applications and many inquiries for information have been received, according to City Administrator Michele Young.

In the meantime, former State Police Trooper Jed Stone has been hired as a full-time patrolman for the City of Enterprise. The City Council unanimously approved signing Stone on full time during its Dec. 14 meeting. Stone initially was hired as a full-time police officer on a short-term basis in early fall. He now will serve under a full-time contract.

Enterprise Police Officer George Kohlhepp will continue to serve as lead officer as the search for a new chief of police continues.

Stone retired from the Oregon State Police after 25 years of service. He is current on all necessary certifications required for the position and has decades of experience in law enforcement in the county.



Kathleen Ellyn/The Chieftain

Trooper Jed Stone shortly before his retirement from Oregon State Police.

PARADE

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The pop-up store combined the goods of home businesses Shabby Gypsy and Jingle Bob's Vintiques. More home businesses set up in the Winterfest Gift Market where they, too, saw a brisk business of gift shoppers.

Over in the Fangled art window of the historic Enterprise Building, Santa Central set up and jolly old St. Nick met children and pets. The Enterprise Fire Department kept the inside of the shopper warm, serving up every last ladle of chili in the pot (five roasters full). They raised "right around \$600 for fire fighting gear," according to Fire Chief Paul Karvoski.

A traditional Christmas treat was provided by Michael Berry of Wild Carrot Herbs. Michael dresses up like an elf and roasts chestnuts over one of the fire barrels every Winterfest, offering the treat for free.

And Judi Taylor's Heavenly Huckleberry Fudge won first place in the fudge contest this year.

The fudge auction, which is the only fundraiser for the event, brought in \$380 to put toward all of the city lighting and decorations, fire barrels, free rides on the hay wagon and in the kiddie train and more.

Winners in the fudge contest were: 1st Place, Judi Taylor's Heavenly Huckleberry Fudge, purchased by John Hillock for \$100; 2nd Place Vivian Tillman's Yum-Yum Maple Fudge, purchased by Sondra Lozier for \$50; 3rd Place, Double Arrow Vet Clinic's Mamie's Fudge, purchased by Tom Swanson for \$90.

Vivian Tillman's second entry in the fudge contest, her new Yum-Yum Lime Fudge, sold for \$90 to Derrell Whitty, and Barbara McCormack's Best Ever Fudge was purchased by Sondra Lozier for \$50.

The Winterfest Christmas Lights Parade closed out the

celebration with a whopping 24 floats this year — many new entries. This event is sponsored every year by Kellermann Logging and Deb's Apparel.

The winning entries were: 1st Place, Les Schwab's "Toys for Tots"; 2nd Place, Main Street Motors' "Repo Christmas"; 3rd Place, Enterprise Fire Department, bringing Santa from the North Pole.

NEON

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While NEON has helped many people navigate their care, the organization doesn't exist in a vacuum. Rather, it is but one essential element in a vast network of providers and social agencies — with critical ties to Wallowa County entities like Community Connection, Winding Waters Clinic, Building Healthy Families and Bennett Insurance. And many of those partners have one or more Community Health Workers on staff who completed the NEON training.

"And that training is ongoing," McColgan said. "They're continually learning and stay connected via social media."

NEON also works closely with the Oregon Department of Human Services and Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization.

"We don't want to duplicate services," Radford said. "We just want to fill in the gaps (in services)."

NEON is funded through one-year grants and private donors, but the nonprofit recently secured federal funding that is earmarked for education and helping people understand their newfound

coverage.

"We have a huge population of people who suddenly have coverage for the first time and don't know how to use it," Radford said.

NEON also conducts specialized workshops for people taking on specific health issues — such as childbirth, asthma, child obesity and senior health — and produces publications to accompany the workshops.


Radford stressed that a vital part of her job is to get parents involved in their children's health care early on.

"If you have child without good dental care, they become adults without dental care. We have a better chance of having healthy adults if we start that preventative process early on.

Learn more

NEON representatives will host an open enrollment event from noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, at Wallowa Resources, 401 NE 1st St., Suite A, in Enterprise.

Visit www.neonoregon.org to learn more about NEON. Or visit the local office at 101 NE 1st St., No. 100 in Enterprise.



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for December 23rd edition

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Office will be closed Dec. 24th at NOON and all day Dec. 25th

