

BAN

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She also pointed out that medical doctors did not write prescriptions that said "here is what you have, and here is the compound you need," she said. Her investigation revealed that a chemist or other specialist at a larger medical marijuana dispensary generally helped customers make that determination.

Roberts said she did not

believe Wallowa County was at the point where a medical marijuana dispensary in the county could provide that sort of service.

"I understand the medical uses of the stuff ... but I'm not sure having a dispensary here is going to be the optimum thing if you can't get a prescription," she said.

Roberts also pointed out that 50 percent of any money earned in taxes on licensing would go to management of that licensing, "per state law."

In earlier meetings it has been argued by proponents of licensing that Wallowa County was in a position to be well educated on the value of medical marijuana and set an example for other counties.

Although all commissioners said they appreciated the education as presented by representatives of both sides of the issue, no commissioner agreed with the argument that Wallowa County commissioners should be leading the way.

"My decision is that Wal-

lowa County need not be on the leading edge of this at this particular time," Roberts said.

Commissioner Mike Hayward said that as important as it was for commissioners to try to be leaders in a community, their primary job was to represent the people of Wallowa County.

"That's very difficult to do, represent everybody in the county, when there's polar-opposite opinions on an issue," he said. "So, to me, the way I've always approached that is it's imperative that I

listen to everyone, but in the end of the day I have to make a decision based on what I think the majority of the people in the county would have us do. I think in this instance it's clear that the majority of the people in Wallowa County would want us to opt out."

Commissioner Paul Castilleja repeated, as he had stated in earlier public meetings, that his primary concern was for younger generations.

"My biggest concern is what the addiction will do to younger generations," Cas-

tilleja said. "It's going to happen. It's already happening. In Wallowa County, I just can't see this going on. As far as me being held responsible to the citizens of this county to say that yes, we're going to do it. I just can't do it."

The ordinance was read aloud and the commissioners voted unanimously to prohibit the operation of medical marijuana processing sites, medical marijuana dispensaries, retail marijuana producers, processors, wholesalers and retailers.

GIVING

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The Enterprise Branch collection jar caught \$5,988 (it may need to be noted that some of these funds have already been declared as donations by Rotary and Soroptimists as they released their totals but then gave to other Community Bank drive). Community Bank matched the Enterprise amount with another \$500.

The Joseph branch collection jar contents totaled \$2,520 plus \$500 max bank match

Safeway/Albertsons Corp. continues to donate hundreds of pounds of food every week through the Fresh Alliance program that brings both fresh vegetables and frozen meat to the food bank and senior centers in Enterprise and Wallowa.

Enterprise FFA and Les Schwab combined efforts this year and donated over 1,000 pounds of food to the drive.

The Enterprise Chapter of PEO International (a sorority dedicated to women's education) raised \$765 for heating assistance and another \$620 in cash for the food bank.

Local individuals have donated two processed cows to the food bank and others continue to supply the food bank with fresh vegetables and fruit.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon State Police have donated 609 pounds of deer and elk meat and "pounds and pounds" of steelhead to the food bank. In most cases, a hunter (who pays for the processing) has

harvested the game illegally or by mistake (bullet passes through one deer and accidentally kills a second one).

The Wallowa County Chapter of Rotary International raised \$3,081 in their annual competition with Soroptimist. The Wallowa County Chapter of Soroptimists International raised \$2,465 in the challenge and then another \$2,000 separately.

Soul Renovation Christmas Concert donated 201 pounds of food and \$221 in cash to the food bank.

Other contributors include the Wallowa County Courthouse, Wallowa Assembly of God Church, St. Katharine's Parish, United Methodist Church, and The Order of the Eastern Star.

More than 300 individuals or families in Wallowa County are served by the food bank on a regular basis and often families need the services provided for just a month or two.

The financial guidelines for assistance are very generous, broader than SNAP requirements and Wallowa

County Food Bank has made it a practice to turn no one away.

Anyone can donate at any time and need not be part of a "drive" or other organized collection. Food Bank collection sites:

Community Connection 702 NW 1st St, in Enterprise: 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Old VFW Hall in Wallowa: 1-3 p.m. the second and third Tuesday of each month

In addition to the Food Bank contributions, volunteers assembled 115 Elks Christmas dinner baskets, packed with donations from individuals and businesses throughout the county.

Meanwhile, over at Enterprise City Hall, on Friday a group of volunteers joined City Manager Michele Young and assistant Lacy McQuead to wrap, label and load hundreds of gifts to go with those dinners. Citizens from throughout the county donated those gifts through the Tree of Giving program or simply dropped presents off at City Hall.

BILL

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made up of Wallowa Land Trust, Wallowa Resources, The Trust for Public Land, Wallowa County and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department — for playing key roles.

"This is a partnership project, not just a land trust project," she said.

According to Ackley and others, the East Moraine deserves preservation for a number of cultural, historical, geological and ecological reasons: Culturally, it was an encampment area for the Nez Perce Tribe that once inhabited the area. It is also important agriculturally for the livestock grazing and the

forest resources it offers.

The moraine is a tourist attraction and one reason hundreds of thousands of tourists visit the area each year. Ecologically, it's a wildlife corridor between the valley floor and mountains and geologically is one of the world's most perfectly formed and preserved glacial landscapes.

The trust intends to use the funding to acquire about 1,800 acres of moraine land owned by the Ronald C. Yanke Family Trust of Boise. Ackley said that while the grant will cover the majority of what she hopes will be the final selling price, the trust still needs to secure funding from non-federal sources.

The next step in the process involves coming to agreement on a purchase price with the landowner.

"Once we can agree on the price, the trust and the Moraine Partnership will pursue additional funds. We should hear more about when funds will be dispersed in the late spring or early summer."

In the meantime, Ackley is pleased the project has gotten this far.

"The East Moraine is more than just a beautiful hillside; this iconic geological formation is central to our identity as a rural community, and with LWCF funds we can ensure it remains much as it is today — a working landscape that is undeveloped and in local ownership."



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