

2015

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and we're not going to do anything to the streets,' but if we (the council) communicate better, I think we can get approval," Sands said.

The bank is not asking Joseph for collateral, although the council is planning to pass an ordinance allowing for the shut-off of water for those who will not pay the transportation utility fee in addition to their sewer and water bill.

The latest proposal has been shelved for the time being, and the road to repairs in Joseph remains bumpy at best.

Center of controversy

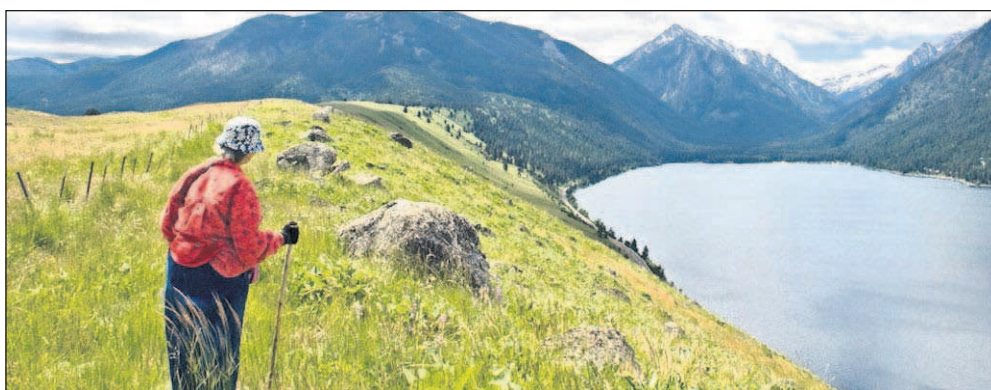
"The road to hell is paved with good intentions, and this is the road to hell." — Parent at a school board meeting regarding school based health center at Enterprise School.

In the fall Winding Waters Clinic of Enterprise proceeded with plans to create a school-based health center at Enterprise School, but the proposal bit the dust due to complaints from outraged parents.

The center was primarily intended to help treat children who aren't receiving health care elsewhere — although any child with a signed permission slip from parents would have been welcomed.

The clinic held a public meeting Sept. 3 at Cloverleaf Hall to help clear the air. Some school staff and a number of parents attended.

While most of the school staff supported the center, a number of parents claimed the center was a government-based effort to usurp their parental



Courtesy of Dolores Bridges

A hiker on the East Moraine gazes southward, toward the head of Wallowa Lake.

rights.

Despite the reassurances of Enterprise school staff and the clinic staff that no birth control would be handed out to students and that any parent could opt out of treatment for their child, parents remained unconvinced.

The clinic attempted another public meeting on Oct. 1, but this met with similar results. After the subject was brought up with equal ire at subsequent school board meetings, the clinic withdrew its proposal.

Off the list

"It was a biological decision, yes or no, regardless of how you feel about wolves in Oregon." — Wallowa County resident Holly Akenson, who serves on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission and voted to delist the gray wolf.

In February, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife released figures from their 2014 annual wolf survey which found seven breeding pairs of wolves in the state and at least 77 wolves in residence. The numbers allowed the state to move the wolves to Phase 2 of the Oregon Wolf Management Plan.

The move to Phase 2

prompted the ODFW to look at removing wolves from listing under the state's Endangered Species Act and give ranchers more leeway in dealing with wolf depredation, includes the use of lethal force when a wolf is caught in the act of attacking livestock.

On Oct. 26, the ODFW recommended to the ODFW Commission, a separate entity that creates policy for managing the state's fish and wildlife, to delist the wolves.

During a Nov. 9 public meeting in Salem, the commission did just that in a 4-2 vote. The vote came after an 11-hour public meeting in Salem with over 100 people on both sides of the wolf issue testifying before the commission. That vote meant that eastside wolves were removed from the state's Endangered Species List, while federal Endangered Species Act protections remain in place for those on the west side of the state.

While livestock producers celebrated the delisting, the move unleashed a storm of protests and a threat of lawsuits from wolf advocacy groups, though no lawsuits have yet been filed. Out of 13 Wallowa County depredations officially reported in 2015, the ODFW confirmed three

while finding five possible depredations and two probables, according to data published on the ODFW website.

Graveside service

"Support to date of the cemetery renovation effort recalls a younger America, an America in which people at the community level did not sit and wait for the state or federal government to solve their problems, but instead took the initiative and put their shoulders to the wheel." — Friends of Enterprise Cemetery member Perry Davis

In its first three meetings in 2015 the Enterprise Cemetery District board saw three resignations (board members Lee Bollman and George Hill and cemetery manager Mike Moore), an expansion of the board to five members and a pledge made by the grassroots organization Friends of Enterprise Cemetery to help raise \$90,000 for an irrigation system in the park.

The Friends (Ella Mae (Marks) Hays, Sondra Lozier, Gail Swarts, Pat Willis, Jim and Betty Butner, Perry Davis and Judy Wortman) had a one-to three-year plan to raise the funds for repairs to the historic cemetery and installation of an underground irrigation

system. By December the District and Friends combined had banked \$78,000 toward the project and the District announced they were ready to draw up plans prior to going out for bids for the irrigation system.

Other repairs and maintenance were taken care of by an army of volunteers. According to Sondra Lozier, board member for Friends of Enterprise Cemetery, attendance at Enterprise Cemetery District meetings hovered between 60 and 75 and a full third of those in attendance have volunteered for cleanup days.

On Dec. 11, the Enterprise City Council awarded the District \$2,000 to pay for engineering fees so that plans for the automatic irrigation project could be drawn up prior to going out for bids in January.

This land is our land

"This property was our parents' dream; they poured their heart and soul into it, and we're proud to honor them by keeping it the way it is." — Frank Kimball, who along with his brothers donated nine acres of Wallowa Lake property to a local land trust.

Wallowa Land Trust, founded in 2004, ended 2015 — arguably its most successful — with a bang.

In early December the land trust just took another step in protecting the moraines of Wallowa Lake from development with the donation of 9 acres of prime lakefront property, including 1,500 feet of shoreline. The

donors — brothers Fred, Frank and Steve Kimball of Washington state — inherited the property from their parents and didn't want to see the land divided up or developed.

Then, within just a few weeks, Congress renewed the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a crucial land trust funding source, for three more years. That move has Wallowa Land Trust poised to receive \$3 million to help purchase 1,533 acres of East Moraine property from a private landowner.

"The goal is to preserve the property and put it into county ownership so it can be a community-owned forest," said Kathleen Ackley, executive director of the Wallowa Land Trust. "The LWCF will help us ensure this icon of northeast Oregon remains undeveloped and locally owned."

Let it flow

"It seems to be a good working system." — Wallowa Public Works Assistant Travis Schaeffer

Wallowa residents in May celebrated a major update to the city's water system.

The \$3 million-plus water update project, funded by a Community Development Block Grant, included the replacement of 425 water meters, 10,000 feet of mainline, 4,000 feet of service line, a new well and pump station on Douglas Street and reservoir on Green Hill. The system benefits approximately 808 people and effectively doubled the city's water supply.

HAYWARD

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his graduation. It was during this time that he met his future wife, Beverly, who is a Wallowa County native.

Hayward and his family moved back to Wallowa County after he left the state parks job in the early '80s. He worked several jobs, including one with Les Schwab Tires, before the family bought Eagle Cap Chalets — a cabin rental business at Wallowa Lake — from Beverly's parents.

After serving with several community committees, including the Joseph City Council, Hayward ran for county commissioner at the suggestion of friends. He was elected to the board of commissioners in 1997 and became the board chair after only a few years of service.

Hayward said the county's involvement with natural resources is one of the high points of his tenure.

"When I go to other counties, Wallowa County is recognized as having been in the lead and on the front of natural resource issues," he said. "I didn't start that, but we've been able to maintain that."

As an example, he cited the formation of the county's Natural Resources Advisory Council, which reviews implementation of agricultural, forest and natural resource provisions of Wallowa County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

He also cited management

of funds, which allowed the county to add services such as an assistant district attorney and full-time veterans services officer at a time when many counties were closing libraries and cutting other services.

"We have financial issues like any county does, but overall we've managed those very well — we've kept the wheels on the bus financially, and I'm proud of that," he said.

The Board of Commissioners will choose Hayward's replacement from a list of several possible candidates recommended by the Republican Central Committee, as Hayward is a Republican. That person will serve as an interim commissioner until the November 2016 election — the position will become nonpartisan beginning with 2016 May 2016 election.

Remaining commissioners Susan Roberts and Paul Castilleja enjoyed their time serving with Hayward. Cas-

tilleja said the news came as a surprise to him.

"He's been helpful and has done a lot for the county, and we're going to miss him," he said.

Roberts said Hayward's commitment and hard work will be missed.

"I have a great deal of respect for Mike," she said.

"He's done far above and beyond the call of duty in his representation of the county."

Hayward doesn't expect the county to fall apart upon his departure.

"I think the county will be fine. There's a lot of good people who work for the county, and I expect they'll just continue on and do the job."

Call to Women Artists

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Student of the Week

Zoe Sallada
Enterprise High School

Zoe Sallada has earned a cumulative 3.86 GPA. She has excelled in English taking two AP courses and is currently enrolled in U of I dual credit college English. She has challenged herself in sciences such as Anatomy, Physics, and Chemistry. She has also taken honors math courses including Algebra II and Pre-Calculus. Thank you Zoe for a job well done at EHS.

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The Student of the Week is chosen for academic achievement and community involvement. Students are selected by the administrators of their respective schools.

Thank You

The family of Lester Kiesecker wishes to thank all of his friends for the beautiful cards, the phone calls, flowers, food & for attending his service. Thank you to our grandsons who traveled so far to be here & to everyone who donated to the Joseph Charter School FFA Chapter, to Enterprise Flower Shop for the gorgeous floral arrangements, and to Bollman Funeral Home for their tender love & sympathy shown to us.

Love to all,
Clarice & family

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