

**election results**

**AGNEW**

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blow on to the next place and take their skills with them.

Often, the two cultures remain unmixed. Both way of the other, Agnew said this separation keeps the city from capitalizing on all of its assets, and keeps it from growing in the sustainable fashion that it should.

There is difference between a friendly face and a friendly place, he said.

In Agnew's view, Enterprise is always the former but not always the latter.

Agnew said as a city councilor he will look for ways to bridge that gulf between new and old. That may entail a kind of Young Professionals club where people in their 20s-40s can meet and socialize. He wants to find other ways for area teens to be involved in the community, and ways to improve and expand assets already in place.

"It will be a lot of learning and trying to make existing things a little better," he said of his council term.

Agnew sees himself as a servant, not a politician. He is the pastor at the growing Abundant Life Ministries at 206 N.E. First Street, and has spent years as a youth pastor, so that vocabulary comes naturally. He said the city's faith community is strong and well represented in city government.

He knows most council meetings won't be about bridging gulfs and creating an identity for a town — which he believes hasn't been fully formed in Enterprise. Most of the work is figuring out sewer rates and stop sign locations and going over the budget with a fine-toothed comb.

"You have to do the mundane or you can never get to the exciting," he said.

Agnew said he hopes to get to do both in his first public office.

**CLEVINGER**

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Clevenger said he wants to be a voice for the year-round residents of Joseph. He thinks their needs often come secondary to the business community and seasonal tourists who bring much-needed money into town and support local jobs.

"Those things are necessary and we want them to do well," said Clevenger. "But we want to be a real community, not just a tourist one."

He doesn't want to sacrifice local mores in order to please tourists, whether that's with marijuana stores or alcohol on city sidewalks.

One issue in particular where he sides with long-term residents is on short-term rental housing in residential areas. Clevenger lives near such a place that was grandfathered in, and he puts up with the problems that causes.

But he said that protecting that ban is the major reason

why he decided to run for a seat on the council.

Clevenger said he is also interesting in zoning issues and public nuisance ordinances. He wants the city to do what it can to clean up Joseph and solve neighborly disputes that arise over semi-abandoned vehicles and city right-of-way.

But he doesn't plan to add employees or hours in order to increase nuisance enforcement. He doesn't plan to look for local dollars to improve Joseph's roads.

"I don't want to raise any more taxes," he said "I'm taxed out."

He does, however, want to get more public input in city matters. He said he will look to social media and other avenues to try to convince residents to take a more active role in decision making.

"I just want to get the most voices, the most information we can to make a decision and then go ahead and make it," he said.

**Schools reimbursed for water lead testing**

By **PARIS ACHEN**  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon Emergency Board on Wednesday approved reimbursing schools more than \$2 million for about 53,000 tests for lead in school water supplies.

The board established a \$5 million reserve fund in September and authorized the Oregon Department of Education to accept applications from schools for reimbursement of costs associated with testing for elevated lead levels in drinking water.

The 53,000 tests come from school districts that represent 89 percent of public school students in the state, according to the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Office.

School districts had until Dec. 1 to submit invoices for reimbursement. They could make requests for tests conducted between March and Dec. 1. The money only covers the cost of collecting and testing water supplies. It doesn't account for any

expenses associated with mitigation of lead contamination.

The widespread testing followed widespread media coverage of a scandal in Portland Public Schools over lead in drinking water that went unreported.

In August, the state Board of Education — at the behest of Gov. Kate Brown — approved a rule that requires school districts to submit a plan for testing for lead in water and other toxins in school environments and to report any results to the public. The rule doesn't require actual testing.

Education and health authorities unveiled a database Dec. 7 that allows the public to look up lead test results.

Lawmakers have said they might consider legislation in 2017 that would require districts to test for lead in water.

New York recently enacted a law requiring schools to test for lead, report results to the public and develop a plan for reducing exposure to the toxin.

**BIRDS**

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Prior to the turn of the 20th century, Americans participated widely in the "Side Hunt," a holiday tradition in which hunters competed to shoot and collect as many birds (and other small game) as possible. This tradition faded with the rise of the early conservation movement. By 1872, with the formation of the first national park at Yellowstone at the direction of President Ulysses S. Grant, American attitudes about wildlife preservation were changing.

Beginning on Christmas Day in 1900, the Side Hunt was replaced with the "Christmas Bird Census," a concept began by Frank Chapman, a respected ornithologist with the emerging Audubon Society. Chapman proposed to count the bird populations instead of hunting them.

More than a century later, the popularity of this pastime has grown. On the 101st count in 2001, there were more than 52,000 participants in seven-teen countries.

As the day began for Wallowa County birders, coffee was finished and count circles — each in a distinct habitat in the county — were assigned.

One group's next hours were spent covering miles of Zumwalt Prairie roads, sight-



Photo by Michael Beaudoin

About a dozen people helped in the Wallowa County effort of the worldwide Christmas Bird Count. The crew located numerous birds of prey, ravens, ducks and quail.

ing everything from abundant mountain quail to six massive bald eagles and countless other raptors. Dozens of solitary ravens drifted between the boughs of neighboring forests and groves. The snow was dense and the air still, and the high morning temperature of six degrees explained the frozen streams and irrigation channels.

Local census volunteer David Dranchak remarked that, after a day of birding, "you start to really notice the layer of birds over everything."

The crews counted birds until about noon, then met to compare results. Lueders gathered the checklists and prepared to collate the results for submission to the Audubon Society.

This year's Christmas Bird Count had 72,653 partici-

pants across the world — an all-time record. Those participants likely collected important data, as the long-running annual bird count has long proven insightful to the plight of North American birds.

The data, gathered exclusively by volunteers, has been instrumental to researching habitat and population decline. It helped inform the Audubon's "Common Birds In Decline Report," highlighting a major reduction in familiar bird North American bird populations over the last 40 years.

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