

»»»»»»» LITTLE LEAGUE | DISTRICT 3 ALL-STAR TOURNAMENT «««««««

Tourney Time



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

Anthony Owings streaks for third base in action Saturday afternoon at the 2017 Little League District 3 All-Star Tournament in Enterprise. The Wallowa Valley 8- to 10-year-old team won its first game Milton Freewater. Play continues at three venues throughout the week.

More photos | Sports on Page A11 | Online at [Wallowa.com](#)

Committee set to form a library district

Wallowa County says it will ‘build a bridge’ to keep limited funding

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

When a standing room only crowd met with Wallowa County Commissioners June 13 to discuss funding the county library, commissioner Susan Roberts gestured to the petition to retain funding, with 803 signatures, and said that if there were “20 go-getters” on that list, a committee to create a special district could be started.

Monday night, seven of those “go-getters” Commissioner Roberts challenged raised their hands and volunteered to be the new board of the Wallowa Valley Library Foundation.

The foundation is an entity that has been around for eight years and has bylaws. The nonprofit was not an entity that “took off” initially, according to Enterprise City Librarian Denine Rautenstrauch, and had dwindled to just two members, one of whom had already announced her departure.

New energy was injected Monday night. Using the foundation as a platform, the seven-member board — with an eighth nom-

See LIBRARY Page A10

County’s budget woes pinch jail utilization funds

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County Sheriff Steve Rogers may be doing his job too well. And that could be a problem.

Recent efforts to take a bite out of crime — particularly drug dealing — have resulted in higher than customary costs for incarcerating those arrested in the process.

“I know they’re broke. I know they’re out of money, and I understand all that,” said Rogers, referring to Wallowa County officials. Rogers has expressed concern with a Wallowa County Budget Committee suggestion that the sheriff’s office reduce the number of criminals it sends to jail.

The timing couldn’t be worse. Deputies and officers from the Enterprise Police Department have collaborated on a number of high profile drug-related busts in the past year.

See JAIL Page A18

AMY HAFER RACE FOR CANCER AWARENESS

By Paul Wahl
Chieftain

Members of the Bank of Eastern Oregon team — from left, Jolene Cox, Tressie Allen, Rhonda Beck and Jocelyn Tanzey — were among the most festively dressed for participation in the Amy Hafer Race for Cancer Awareness Saturday in Enterprise. The bank is one of the primary sponsors of the event, which is designed to raise money and awareness to cancers of all types.

More photos | See Page A18 | [Wallowa.com](#)



Businessman proposes marijuana sales in Joseph



Flanagan plans to propose idea July 6

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Sean Flanagan says business is good, but it could be better. He is the co-owner of The Peace Pipe, a Joseph smoking accessories and art shop on Main Street.

Flanagan and his partner Michelle Kramer would like to add a recreational and medicinal marijuana dispensary.

Flanagan admitted he had forgotten that the Joseph City Council unanimously approved an ordinance in 2015 that effectively prohibits marijuana dispensaries, but he said that won’t deter them.

He plans to bring the idea to the council at its July 6 meeting.

While he expects some resistance from the council, he believes the benefits, particularly in the form of tax revenue, might sway enough council members to take the leap.

“We get at least a half-million visitors here every summer. Not all of them smoke marijuana, but many do,” Flanagan said.

The state levies a 17 percent tax marijuana sales. Three percent

of that would accrue to Joseph’s coffers.

With the approval of city voters, Joseph would also be allowed to levy an additional three percent on top of the state’s tax.

Flanagan said he understands people may see marijuana sales as a temptation for minors. He’s already dealing with the issue.

See WEED Page A18

LIT A SPARKLER.
SPARKED A WILDFIRE.
IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY
TO PREVENT HUMAN-CAUSED WILDFIRES.

#KEEPOREGONGREEN

7

3