



THREE minutes with ...



MOUSE MCKINNEY

Pastor, Enterprise Church of the Nazarene

Mouse (yes, that is her legal name) McKinney, 66, of Joseph graduated from Baker High in 1969 and applied to the FBI.

The application process was lengthy, and while she waited she worked as a waitress and met James McKinney. She finally gave up on the FBI and made plans to marry James in 1970 — and the FBI sent her a letter of acceptance about a week before the wedding.

She and James moved from Baker to La Grande and he began a more than 30-year career with Boise Cascade while she began her “real work” in the ministry, doing outreach for the La Grande Church of the Nazarene.

The couple never had children — but they do have a house rabbit, Mouse said.

She received her call to be a minister more than 20 years ago, completed her training through the church and has served ever since.

The McKinneys came to Wallowa County from La Grande when Mouse had the opportunity to become the pastor for Enterprise Church of the Nazarene. She has served there for seven years. She commuted to Wallowa County for three years while she and James looked for housing.

Q. What brought you to Wallowa County and why do you stay?

A. Being called as a pastor here brought me. I stay because it’s beautiful, and I love the people. God just gave me a love

for the people in Wallowa County. The people here in this small rural congregation needed me more than the people in La Grande where I served as associate pastor.

Q. What has Wallowa County taught you?

A. To really appreciate homespun people. They are what they are without putting on airs. People in other places with a busier lifestyle often try to be what they aren’t in order to fit in. But in Wallowa County, what you see is pretty much what you get. I like that very much.

Q. What was the first library book you ever checked out, and can you recommend a book you’ve read recently?

A. The first book I ever checked out was “Gods of Mount Olympus.” I was six or seven years old, and it wasn’t in the kid’s section. I can’t remember why that book appealed to me, but I remember that was the first and I read it.

The book I can recommend is the Bible — the whole thing. I think I’ve read it 50 or maybe even 100 times. Any other book, once I read it, I never want to see it again. But with the Bible, the Lord speaks to my heart over and over.

Each time you read it, you are in a new place or new situation and you see things in a new way.

As a pastor, sometimes when you read it you get an

Doctors, dentists and a brew pub on the horizon

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Remodels in two Wallowa County buildings will bring health care to Joseph and a new brew-pub to Enterprise.

Winding Waters Clinic will open a new office in Joseph in January, according to Nic Powers, CEO.

The office will be in Dr. Steven Zollman’s former Chief Joseph Dental Clinic on Main Street in Joseph, next to Sports Corral. Zollman went to work for Winding Waters in September part-time in the new dental suite at the 603 Medical Parkway, Enterprise, location.

Zollman will also continue to work at the Joseph location along with doctors and therapists who will be providing primary health care and behavioral health care in Joseph.

The office will be redesigned for the new purpose.



Kathleen Ellyn

Winding Waters, a nonprofit community health organization, decided to add dentistry to its services because of the need for a practice that would accept Oregon Health Plan Insurance.

“We decided to do that because we thought there was a real community need for dental care — particularly for the Oregon Health Plan population that would otherwise not have access to dentistry,” Powers said. “We also see a lot of benefit in having dental care in a medical setting.”

As an example, Powers told the story of a patient who came in for dental work with very

high blood pressure. That individual was first sent to a medical doctor to get the blood pressure under control before attempting the dental work, Powers said.

The rumor that the old Ace Hardware store in downtown Enterprise will become a brewery is true.

Neil Marzols of “Rants and Raves Brewery” of Moscow, Idaho, has confirmed that work in the building should begin in April opening in September.

Marzols purchased the entire building, which also contains both the Little Store and Department of Motor Vehicles. He won’t use all that space and said he also plans to carve off two more leased location spots in the Ace building.

“It will be a brewery taphouse,” said Marzols. “We’ll license it as a brewery, put a nano-brewery in and feature beers from both Enterprise and Moscow. We’ll serve food and

do a brewing class, too.”

Marzols has been coming to Wallowa County for years because his wife — Rami Rose Attebury — is a native who graduated from Wallowa High in 1998.

“Her dad was Richard Attebury, a history teacher at Enterprise School. The family lived in Lostine for my wife’s entire childhood. She was the inspiration behind the move. We go to the county quite a bit and enjoy it there.”

The company makes at least 11 specialty brews, and the brewpub in Moscow hosts a weekly trivia game and is involved in numerous community events in Moscow.

Marzols’s construction company, Independent Homes Services, will do the remodel. One of his right-hand guys in the construction company is John Butler of Enterprise, he said.

Marzols expects to hire locally for the brewpub.

Energy efficiency focus for homes, businesses

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The ongoing Brown Bag conversations about housing in Wallowa County, hosted by the Joseph Center, took an informative side-road Nov. 21.

Energy Trust of Oregon presented information on how and why to access energy efficiency funding for new and existing homes, both owned and rentals.

Energy Trust is an independent nonprofit that serves customers of the five investor-owned utilities: PGE, Pacific Power, Natural Gas Avista, NW Natural Gas and Cascade Natural Gas. Their focus is on finding ways to improve efficiency in new and existing buildings so as to limit the need to construct new power plants that would increase the ecological footprint of energy generation.

Since the nonprofit was introduced in 2007, it has “saved” enough energy to serve approximately 516,000 individuals.

“If everyone here reduced their energy usage by 10 percent, that’s a whole bunch of energy available for the next new home or next new business or industry without build-



Susan Badger Jones

ing additional power plants,” said Susan Badger Jones, Eastern Oregon Outreach Manager for Energy Trust of Oregon.

The nonprofit maintains offices in the Wallowa Resources building in Enterprise and works closely with that entity in ag and business developments.

“Wallowa Resources is a key partner for us with irrigation and hydro that they are doing and with the Integrated Biomass Campus,” Badger-Jones said.

Caryn Appler, new and existing homes program director for Oregon Energy Trust from the Pendleton office, provided a shotgun blast of infor-

mation on programs available for housing.

Appler has a construction background and is well-informed about what contractors need and how to troubleshoot energy problems.

“If you take anything from this meeting, take my phone number,” Appler said. “I am your point of contact.”

The focus on energy efficiency in building structures is both state-wide and national, Appler pointed out, noting that Oregon’s Governor Kate Brown has recently signed an executive order that set the state on the path toward net-zero energy-ready buildings as state standard.

Net-zero energy means that a structure does not consume more energy than it generates through renewable energy sources built into the structure.

“New technology is being built into codes and contractors need to know about them,” she said.

The net-zero plan states that over the next six years, new buildings will have to be ready for installation of solar panels, parking structure will be designed to include electric vehicle chargers; high-efficiency water fixtures will be required; and residential buildings will have to meet enhanced energy efficiency levels and design that makes the home ready for solar panels.

According to the executive order, among the benefits for the state is support for

new (mostly small) technology businesses that sustain a workforce of over 40,000 jobs statewide, in addition to multi-million dollar energy savings for the state. The benefit to the low income and underserved is improved housing and lower energy costs.

The interest in new technologies and high efficiency is high in Wallowa County. Enterprise Electric was recently named among the top 500 solar energy installers in the nation.

They ranked eighth in the state.

Co-owner Jared Hillock said that solar installations now account for 25 to 35 percent of Enterprise Electric’s business.

The company is building a 10,000 square-foot net-zero building using geo-ther-

mal heat pumps, high rated insulation, LED lighting and other efficiency measures. The building will serve as an example for customers and contractors.

“We’re excited to have this as a tool to inform people as to how this works,” said Hillock.

The company does all the paperwork to get the customer federal, state and Energy Trust incentives and provides continuous efficiency analysis and service for solar panels.

“We work with Energy Trust to put together a system that helps with monitoring usage,” he said. “On a new or existing home, we come in and analyze your power bill and see what kind of solar aspect your home has and design a system that fits your budget as well as your power bill.” he said.

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