

ZINE MAKES ITS DEBUT

Lauren MacDonald launches labor of love | Page A9

zine (zēn)
A zine is a small, self-published magazine, often featuring images, text, and artwork. It is typically produced by amateurs and is often distributed through independent channels. Zines are known for their eclectic and often unconventional content, reflecting the unique perspectives of their creators. They have been a part of various subcultures and movements, providing a platform for voices that might not be heard in mainstream media.

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



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Group spurs bid to rescind marijuana ban

Voters could decide issue in May

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

The cities of Joseph and Enterprise will have the opportunity to rethink their stand on allowing the sale of medical and recreational marijuana in May.

A coalition of individuals whose lives have been significantly improved with the use of medical marijuana have joined forces with Sean Flanagan, co-owner of The Peace Pipe in Joseph that sells smoking accessories and art, to put the issue to a vote.

To that end, notifications of the bid to repeal the existing ordinance that bans marijuana and replace it with one that allows marijuana have been published in this issue of the Chief-

tain. A week from now the group will present a ballot title at the Wallowa County Courthouse for ultimate approval by the Secretary of State.

After that, signature-gathering begins. Fifty percent of the registered voters in each city must be certified by March 15.

Supporters of the initiative are feeling confident about the process.

"We have people knocking on our doors, wanting to sign," said Marty

Thompson of Enterprise, a supporter of the initiative.

Once the initiative is on the ballot, there must be a voter turnout of 51 percent of residents, with the majority voting to rescind the ban, for the repeal to take affect.

Enterprise City Council discussed the issue at its regular Jan. 8 meeting and called city lawyer Wyatt Baum on the phone for advice on the matter.

Baum first addressed the con-

cern over federal intervention, given Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recent reversal of policy regarding legalizing marijuana cultivation, sale and use.

"I'm not necessarily concerned about that," Baum said.

He pointed out that there were a lot of bigger cities for the feds to target, and despite the saber rattling,

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no whining about this year's winter



Irrigation equipment that was trapped in feet of snow last year sits in open fields this year.

Wallowa County spared second consecutive record cold, snow

Photos by Paul Wahl, Chieftain Editor

Warm temperatures have replaced the freezing cold and dumps of heavy snow the area experienced in 2017. Temperatures on average have been around 30 degrees warmer the first seven days of 2018 with very little snow on the ground. Rain Tuesday morning across much of the area turned what snow remained into slush. The switchup is welcomed by those who endured last year's worst winter in what many say was more than 50 years. Long-range forecasts call for the moderate weather to continue. A forecast for the coming week is on Page 2.



While some snow has fallen at higher elevations, most of the valley floor has little to no snow.

Felony charges fail to stick on Samard

He was convicted of harassment, assault

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

A litany of witnesses, including DNA experts and police officers, could not convince a jury to convict Bradley Allen Samard, 37, of Enterprise, on the two most serious charges against him in Wallowa County Circuit Court Dec. 14. District Attorney Mona Williams represented the state while attorney James Schaeffer represented Samard. Judge Russell B. West presided.

Samard was charged with robbery in the first degree, a Class A felony; menacing, a Class A misdemeanor; assault in the

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Joni Herb is a survivor

Her coverage under expanded Medicaid probably saved her life

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Without expanded Oregon Health Plan coverage, Joni Herb, 61, of Joseph would be facing death or bankruptcy. And the crazy part is that the cancer she was diagnosed with last spring has a 90 to 95 percent cure rate with treatment.

Fortunately, Herb retains expanded coverage under the Oregon Health Plan and in another few weeks, she hopes to be "looking at this in the rear view mirror."

Medical interests fear that if Measure 101 does not pass, other Oregonians may face the same choice — life or bankruptcy. Some may not have assets that make bankruptcy a choice. Without insurance coverage, they may die.

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I see you, Wallowa County

Jenkins gets eSight glasses thanks to huge response to plea

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Kathy Jenkins of Joseph is sitting in her son's home in Arizona with her new glasses in hand.

Thanks to the outpouring of support from mostly Wallowa County folks who read of her need in the Chieftain, she raised \$7,000 toward the purchase of the \$10,000 glasses in the weeks between Dec. 6 and Jan. 1. That was enough to make the deadline that qualified her for a \$3,000 match pledged by a Canadian benefactor.

"The very last day of the fundraising

challenge, 14 people made donations to help me meet that goal," Jenkins said. "I would like to thank everyone who contributed to my glasses, fund. I was just overwhelmed by the response."

The eSight "glasses" look more like the visor that "Star Trek: The Next Generation" character Geordi La Forge wears than traditional glasses. The high-tech contraption uses a high-speed, high-definition camera and light-emitting diode screens to capture the view and then show it in the small area of sight most legally blind individuals retain.

Jenkins lost her vision to both macular degeneration and a rare condition called pseudoxanthoma elasticum. As a result of the progressive condition, she had only a tiny window of poor peripheral vision in her left eye.

Jenkins is waiting for a tutorial on how to use Skype followed by a 90-min-

ute class on how to adjust and maintain the glasses.

Those who would like to continue helping Jenkins financially with other medical procedures she receives regularly at the Casey Eye Institute at OHSU to preserve her remaining sight may make contributions to an account set up in her name at Community Bank.

Jenkins friend and a former customer from her business, Kathy's Komer Beau-Tique, Tim Parks of TW Bronze in Enterprise, donated several bronze works to raffle to raise money for the glasses and ongoing treatments. Jenkins sat at Enterprise Safeway for three days the second week of December and customers purchased approximately \$1,000 worth of tickets.

Some simply donated money without taking a ticket, she said. The success of the ad hoc fundraiser was so immedi-



Courtesy photo

Kathy Jenkins had the opportunity to try the eSight glasses in Boise some months back.

ate that the raffle is already closed and no advertising in advance was possible. No date has yet been set for the drawing.

"They've always been big-hearted in Wallowa County," Jenkins said. "This has touched my heart."



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