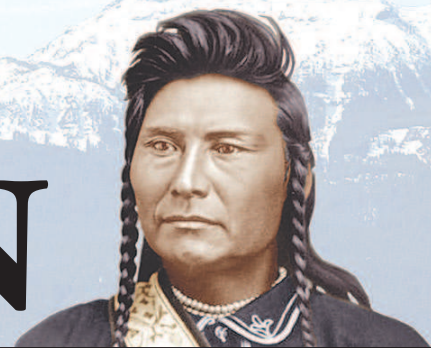


**WALLOWA, JOSEPH FOOTBALL TEAMS  
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# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

Enterprise, Or

Issue No. 26

Wallowa.com

October 17, 2018 \$1

## Sports building supporters get seed money

Project could cost as much as \$450,000

By Kathleen Ellyn  
Wallowa County Chieftain

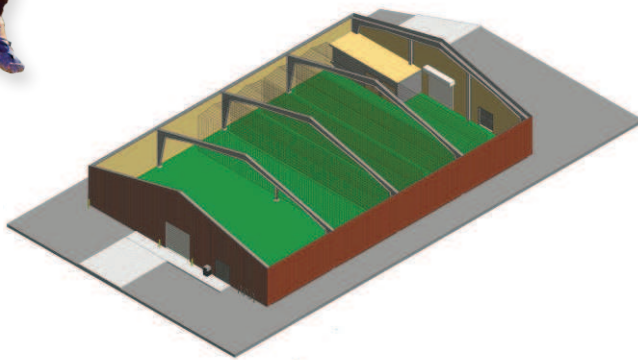
“We Can.” That’s the motto of the Wallowa County Athletic Network (WCAN), which is working with Enterprise to construct a \$400,000, 6,800 square-foot multipurpose sports building at the Jensen Field location. The city received notice Sept.

21 that Oregon Parks and Recreation was awarding \$250,250 toward the project. The network needs a \$50,000 match to fulfill the grant obligation. The balance needed to complete the building will come from other grants, in-kind donations and money raised through fundraisers. The estimated community in-kind donations of labor and

materials needed is \$80,000 with another \$70,000 needed in monetary donations. The deadline for completion of the project is Oct. 31, 2020.

The indoor sports facility will include a new bathroom, storage and indoor practice space that will allow for movable batting cages for softball, baseball and little league in addition to

See SPORTS BUILDING, Page A10



## Moving memorial bridge on county’s grant list

By Kathleen Ellyn  
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County Commissioners will divide approximately \$200,000 in Title II money to tackle projects recommended by the Wallowa County Natural Resource Advisory Committee.

Title II funds includes money the county receives in lieu of payments once received when timber was harvested on federal land. The money is earmarked for projects on federal land.

The committee handed in its ranked list of 12 projects at the Oct. 1 board of commissioners meeting. The list was vetted by the NRAC’s Technical Committee, which ranks projects suitable to receive county grants from Title II funds according to their planning and support.

Top projects included restoration of the historic Lick Creek Guard Station with the assistance of the Wallowa Mountains Hells Canyon Trails Association and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Firefighters. That project is expected to cost \$23,247, and the Wallowa-Whitman asked for a county grant of \$5,382.

“In the past we always said we wanted to see maintenance on buildings and this one was well written and they knew exactly what they wanted and they didn’t ask for very much money,” said Cynthia Warnock who previews and then presents grant requests to the NRAC Technical Committee.

Second on the list was the reconstruction of 26 backcountry water troughs in the Hells Canyon Natural Resource Area and Wallowa Valley Ranger District. Allowing cattle and wildlife to water from the troughs improves water quality and protects fish habitat by keeping large animals out of waterways.

The troughs were originally placed in 1960-70 in remote backcountry areas and have reached

See BRIDGE, Page A12

## CITY HALL GOING UP



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

The foundation has been set for the new Enterprise City Hall and Fire Station with the pouring of 374 cubic yards of concrete at the corner of East North and North River. Contractor Troy Farwell of Wellens Farwell Construction said the project is approximately 30 percent completed. The steel building material package is scheduled to arrive Nov. 6. The \$2.2 million project is expected to be completed next summer.

## Joseph voters asked to approve marijuana sales

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

Sean Flanagan and his partner, Michelle Kramer have twice unsuccessfully lobbied the Joseph City Council for permission to open a recreational and medicinal marijuana dispensary within the city.

The two, who own the Peace Pipe, a smoking accessory store in Joseph, decided to bypass the council and go directly to the taxpayers. They gathered enough signatures from Joseph citizens to put the issue to a city-wide vote in November’s general election as Ballot Measure 32-42.

They had petition signature sheets in their store, used word-of-mouth and also tried going door-to-door.

“It wasn’t a good idea,” Flanagan said. “We had a lot of naysayers who were unhappy about us coming to their house and asking them about it. We got screamed at a couple of times for that reason.”

Qualifying for the ballot meant 87 signatures. They turned in 183, of which 104 were accepted by the Wal-



lowa County Clerk. Reasons for the difference included 30 signers who weren’t yet registered to vote and 35 who were from outside city limits, according to Kramer.

According to Flanagan, most of the resistance he’s met is from people who believe marijuana is a gateway drug into methamphetamine use, or that marijuana will end up in the hands of minors.

“You have to be 21 to even come on our property,” he said. “We don’t want kids to get hold of it.”

Flanagan said that if even 10 percent of the area’s several hundred thousand visitors annually dropped \$50 at the store, the city would reap reward in the form of tax collected on each sale. He estimated that 1,000 to 2,000 people in the county as well as more from La Grande, which doesn’t have a recreational dispensary, would also add to the city’s coffers.

Flanagan said that the negative reaction from some citizens at city council meetings have kept the couple from overt efforts to keep the ballot measure in the public eye, but they planned to mail out a circular to the public.

Despite pushback from the Joseph City Council as well as the city councils of Lostine and Wallowa, they do not plan to give up. Flanagan said that as more people become informed about marijuana, the more accepting they are toward legalizing it.

“We’re not taking a no, and we’re not walking away from it,” Flanagan said.

Kramer urged that everyone possible get out and vote. She noted that Joseph voters have the power to speak through their votes and decide the issue.

“This is finally a chance for everyone to have their say,” she said. “We have to fight for every single vote that we can get.”

Among those in Joseph not enamored with the idea of legalized marijuana is Mayor Dennis Sands. He is against the measure,

See POT, Page A11

## Joseph wins Oregonian Cup

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

A large sparkling silver cup graces the trophy case at Joseph Charter School, the coveted “Oregonian Cup.” The award, given annually for the past 19 years, honors excellence in four areas — academics, sportsmanship, athletics and activities.

Joseph’s 1,640 points edged out the 1,610 points garnered by Hosanna Christian Academy in Klamath Falls, Ore., for the honor. Joseph trumped 86 other 1A schools for the award.

Kathy Foster of the Oregon School Activities Association presented the award to the school during an Oct. 11 volleyball match with Wallowa.

JCS athletic director Jason Crenshaw said the school was pleased to receive the award.

“It’s kind of a cool thing for our kids,” he said. “They put in a lot of hard work and this is an acknowledgment of it.”

Joseph Supt. of Schools Lance Homan said that although the platform for the Oregon Cup is athletics, it’s a representation of the phenomenal work done by the school’s coaches, staff, community and most importantly parents. He called the award

“amazing.”

“We finished first out of 87 schools and we are the fourth public school ever to win the award at the 1A level in the 19 years the cup has been given,” he said. “We are truly honored

and we couldn’t be prouder of our students who made this possible.”

The Oregonian Cup, sponsored by the Oregonian newspaper in Portland, began as a

way to recognize overall excellence by schools in academics, activities and athletics. The award honors a school’s students, teachers, coaches and the entire school community.

Schools earn points based on their participation and finish in OSAA State Championships and for Top 10 finishes in the OSAA Academic All-State Program. A sportsmanship component, whereby schools are awarded points each season for having no ejections, is included as well.

The points are updated and released at the end of fall and winter seasons and totaled at the end of the year. The school earning the highest points in each classification receives a commemorative trophy from The Oregonian and the OSAA.



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