

TG RELEASES NEW BEER AS PART OF PROJECT LOCAL, A3

RARE COMPONENT IN TODAY'S CRANE, ENTERPRISE GIRLS GAME SPORTS, A9

STAIGLE NAMED TO EAST-WEST SHRINE GAME SPORTS, A9

\$1.50



# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



137th Year, No. 10

WINNER OF THE 2020 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

## Wallowa County Voices



Joy Warnock  
Enterprise

### She gives and receives support

ENTERPRISE — Joy Warnock has lived in Enterprise for the past 11 years, having been born in San Diego and brought here by her parents, Lyman and Mildred Warnock.

She works full time at the Alpine House in Joseph as the lead medical technician. She studied courses related to her field and then became certified online.

"Everything I learned was through experience and getting certified online," she said.

She's still single, but her mom is trying to marry her off, she jests.

"But I'm just doing my own thing right now," she said.

Warnock recently shared her thoughts about living in Wallowa County.

#### What's your favorite thing about Wallowa County?

It's got to be the support by the people (here). Being from San Diego, where it's really big and everybody minds their own business and doesn't care about anybody, it was a really big culture shock when we moved here to a really small community. It was really strange having people just wave at you and be super friendly and super nice. It was something I wasn't really used to. It was really pleasant.

#### What fun plans do you have in the county for this summer?

I'm going to Greece in September. I'm going on a tour with my cousin and my aunt. We'll see some of those islands where the water's so blue it should be illegal.

#### What are your thoughts on the beginning of fire season, after Central Oregon burned last year?

I hope it's not our turn, and if it is, we can skip it. I just think people need to be really careful.

#### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected you?

Sickwise? No. Nobody around me has gotten COVID. It affected us a lot at work. Taking care is really big and we were shut down for a long time. It was sad their family members couldn't come visit, so we told them, "You are our family; we think of you as family."

#### What have you learned from living in Wallowa County?

You're never by yourself living in Wallowa County. There will always be somebody there by your side for support. People are just really caring.

#### What's your advice for people who are thinking about moving here?

I think we have enough people living here. I think it's really great. It's great for families.

— Bill Bradshaw,  
Wallowa County Chieftain

# The next 50 years

## Wallowa Lake Tramway, one of the county's top attractions, looks ahead

By BILL BRADSHAW  
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA LAKE — More of the same exciting rides and new features can be expected during the next half-century of life in the Wallowa Lake Tramway, co-owner Mike Lockhart said Wednesday, June 9.

Like many businesses, last year — when the tram marked its 50th anniversary — was taken up with just getting through the coronavirus pandemic. He said nothing special was done to mark the first half-century of county's top tourist attraction.

"I didn't think about that until this morning," he said.

Originally constructed in 1970, the tram was first owned by a stock corporation known as High Wallowas, which was later forced to sell, Lockhart said.

"It started with a bunch of dedicated people who wanted to build an attraction that would be special, which this is, in my opinion," he said.

He and three others bought the attraction. In 1984, he said, he and Bill Whittemore bought out the other two partners and became co-owners.

"We've been operating it ever since," he said.

#### Maintenance is primary goal

Perhaps the primary goal Lockhart and Whittemore have for the tram is to continue to maintain and upgrade it. The attraction operates from late May to early October and some people would like to see that expanded. But that's unlikely, since the "shoulder seasons" of late fall and early spring are necessary for their maintenance work.

Lockhart estimated the tram would cost about \$10 million to replace.

However, he said, "It isn't worth



The crystal-blue waters of Wallowa Lake are easily visible on a clear day from the Wallowa Lake Tramway, which was the case Saturday, June 5, 2021.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa Lake Tramway co-owner Mike Lockhart prepares to board a cabin for the trip to the summit of Mount Howard on Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

\$10 million and that's why we're doing everything we can to restore it to keep the place operating safely. There's very little here that dates back to 1970."

He said they are continually on the lookout for parts they can use on the tram — or have made new.

"A lot of the parts we have right now we have to have made our-

selves" at a local machine shop, he said, but "there are still parts around" that can be purchased.

#### Safety is key

Their efforts to keep the tram operating safely have proven successful.

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#### TRAM FACTS

**Elevation:** Base 4,450 feet; Summit 8,150 feet.

**Distances:** Vertical 3,700 feet; Horizontal 1.83 miles; Trails 2½ miles.

**Time:** One way 15 minutes.

**Header:** 150 hp electric motor with a 55 hp auxiliary

**Towers:** highest is 74 feet; average tower height is 30 feet.

**Top terminal counterweight:** 28 tons

**Gondolas:** Swiss-made four-passenger cabins with a detachable grip. One car leaves the terminal every 90 seconds.

**Land:** One-third is privately owned; two-thirds is owned by U.S. Forest Service Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

**From the top,** you can see four states: Oregon, Idaho — including Seven Devils, Washington and on a clear day, the Bitterroot Mountain Range of Montana.

## Longtime city worker to be July Fourth grand marshal

### Terry Larm honored for going above and beyond for Wallowa

By BILL BRADSHAW  
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — Decades of service to the city and his willingness to go above and beyond are what garnered Terry Larm the honor of being this year's grand marshal for Wallowa's annual Fourth of July Parade, City Hall announced last week.

City Recorder Carolyn Harshfield said the parade committee is made up of four city employees and Mayor Gary Hulse and they were recently discussing who they wanted to honor.

"We were just doing votes on who we thought would be fitting and we picked Terry because of all the time that he put in for the city," Harshfield said. "He was always so helpful, even after he retired, he would do anything to help people."

Hulse said Larm's helpfulness and dedication to Wallowa went into his retirement years and continued despite a disability.

"Terry had physical disabilities, but he was always willing to work way above what he appeared to be able to," the mayor said. "He was an excellent worker."



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

An American flag flies proudly over the Wallowa home of Terry Larm as he sits on his four-wheeler. Larm, a lifelong resident and longtime city worker, was recently selected to be the town's grand marshal at its Fourth of July Parade.

Larm wasn't really sure why he was selected.

"I was just told by the city recorder, Carolyn, that I'd been selected and she wanted to know if I would accept it," he said.

#### Partially disabled

Larm worked for the city as its one-man maintenance crew for 29 years — from 1980 until he was

diagnosed with a degenerative muscle disease and forced to retire in 2009. The disease keeps him from picking up his feet very well. He rides a four-wheeler around his place or uses canes.

He said that as he neared retirement, he had one final meeting with the City Council and city attorney. They wondered if his disability would allow him to be put on light

duty. They wondered about having him deliver shutoff notices. But that means going up steps.

"I think the clincher was when I told them that when I pick up my left foot, sometimes I have to lift it over onto the clutch," he said. "That was the end of my career right there. I was given a ride home that day and that was the end."

#### Navy veteran

Will he ride his four-wheeler in the parade? No, he said, he'll ride in a locally owned classic convertible.

"I was hoping to someday build myself a little, homemade submarine and ride in the parade, but I think this'll take the place of that idea," he said.

The idea was an allusion to his four years in the Navy. From 1972-76, he served aboard an atomic fast-attack submarine out of Hawaii. While at sea, he went to Guam, Philippines and the Indian Ocean. He worked as a cook.

He recalled that during one 80-day deployment — subs don't get resupplied at sea — they were running short of food.

"I was getting of nervous," he said. "I was thinking of 101 ways to fix something out of egg noodles."

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