Soap made from 'love, art, herbalism'



By Bill Bradshaw

Imnaha woman offers unique bath and body products

MNAHA — Do you like bath and body products with a distinct aroma derived from naturally occurring products in Wallowa County? Well, Peak Fusion Studio of Imnaha has what you're looking for.

"I predominately make handcrafted soap. I also make bath bombs, perfume, lotion bars and salve," said business owner Terra Snyder, who runs the business out of her Imnaha Canyon home. "My motto is we create in the spirit of love, art and herbalism."

And she's not alone in the

"It's a family-run business, for sure," she said. "Everybody helps out."

The family includes husband Jason, who runs Jason Snyder Construction, and their four children, ranging in age from 15-25.

The Snyders have been living in the canyon for 21 vears come June.

"We both moved back after being gone from home for years,' she said. "We both were really in love with the Imnaha area, the people, the river, the life style.

Special ingredients "What makes my products



Terra Snyder, of Peak Fusion Studio, shows some of the soaps and other products her Imnaha-based business produces. She was displaying them during the Holiday Bazaar at the Joseph Community Events Center on Friday, Nov. 26, 2021.

special are a few different things," Snyder said. "Every bar of soap has hand-rendered lard in it."

She said she gets the lard from pigs raised at Square Mile Ranch in Lostine. Soap also can contain beef tallow, which she may use in the future, but for now, she sticks with lard.

"I can do vegan soap and will make it if asked," she said.

The family also keeps bees, which go into the mix. "We raise bees and put our own honey and hand-rendered beeswax in our soaps," she said. "It's really special stuff. It's really good quality."

Then there's the plants and herbal ingredients.

"We love to wild-harvest. I predominantly will wild-harvest invasive species," she said, emphasizing that she avoids native species. "I do not wild-harvest any indigenous food sources for profit."

These may include biscuitroot, camas root or huckleberries.

"I may harvest them for

my own use, but I will not profit from it," she said. "It's a way of showing respect for the Nez Perce people of this land."

Snyder also infuses her products with botanicals.

"I wild-harvest and grow flowers and herbs that I then infuse oils with and then I make my products from those oils," she said.

Infusion is the process of pouring an oil over plant matter and waiting anywhere from four to six weeks to a year for the oil to soak up the essence of the plant matter.

"The oil will smell like that plant matter," she said. "If I infuse olive oil with lavender, that olive oil will smell like lavender.'

She also adds cocoa butter and shea butter she gets from a company in Northern Ghana that uses the proceeds to help women and children.

"Those are wonderful butters to have in soap," she said. "They're very moisturizing."

She keeps busy Much of Snyder's busi-

PEAK FUSION STUDIO

What: Bath and body

business Who: Terra Snyder

Where: P.O. Box 45, Imnaha, OR 97842

Phones: 541-577-3079

Email: peakfusionstu-

dio@gmail.com

Instagram: peakfusion-

ness is online, although she does offer her wares at various outlets in Wallowa County and she recently was at the Holiday Bazaar at the Joseph Community Events Center.

she's making about 30 bars of soap a day, five days a week. Fall and spring are the busy seasons for production, while she devotes winter and summer to sales.

She said that right now,

Beyond Wallowa County, Snyder said she has customers from New York to Los Angeles.

But it's not all about making money, she said, adding that 10% of her proceeds go for "indigenous reparations," which goes along with her love for the original inhabitants of the county.

"I have very much a heart for the indigenous community," she said.

Bill Bradshaw is a reporter for the Wallowa County Chieftain. Have a business tip? Contact him at 541-398-5503 or bbradshaw@wallowa.com.

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WORSHIP

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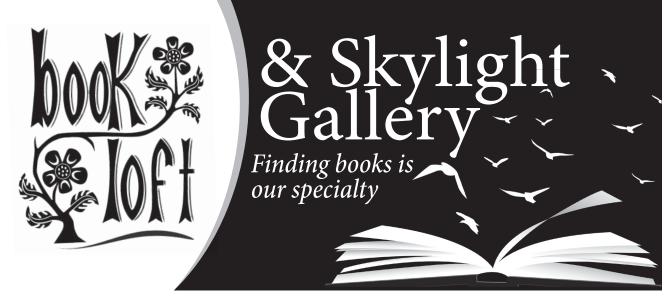
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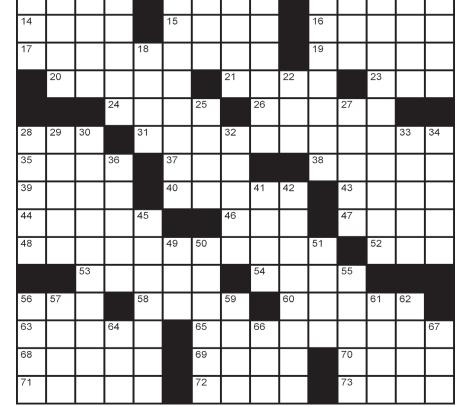
541-426-3439

Worship Service Sunday 9:30am



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. They're above abs
- 5. Event with deep-fried food 9. Dishonest person
- 14. Sentry's order
- 15. Glady's Knight's range 16. Spew lava
- 17. Ideal piece of pasta. e.g., informally?
- 19. Gets together
- 20. "Seriously!" 21. Thing for walking the dog?
- 23. Type of sauce in teriyaki dishes
- 24. Tickled doll 26. Skirts with a pancake
- variety 28. Query 31. "I've never heard that song
- sung in two keys simultaneously," for one? 35. Bit of kindling
- 37. Ready
- 38. Switch topics 39. Thing to keep your eye on 40. "Bear" related to a wombat
- 43. Go on a tirade 44. One with many
- world views? the groundwork
- 47. Confessional confessions 48. Complicated network of relationships at
- **Buckingham Palace?** 52. BOS rival, in baseball
- 53. Postpone 54. "Table" or "sea" follower
- 56. Do something 58. Strongly against
- 60. Lift
- 63. Prickly plant
- 65. "My life has been reduced to these few sentences on a dust jacket!"?
- 68. Feature of 70-Across's clue
- 69. Male deer
- 70. Peter, Paul and Marry,
- for one 71. Project details, briefly
- 72. Feature of 70-Across's
- clue
- 73. Tidbit of vanilla



CLUES DOWN

- 1. Tammy Duckworth's deg.
- 2. Bring in, as money 3. Activist and poet Wade
- 4. Not fresh
- 5. One might have a nose wire
- 6. Apple pie ___ mode
- 7. Modest response to praise
- 8. "Mr. ____" (Styx song)
 9. Show stoppers?
- 10. Mine cart cargo
- 11. "Nope, try once more"
- 12. No more than
- 13. Site for handmade goods
- 18. Breast (baby-feeding option)
- 22. Loud laugh sound 25. Cookie that can be personalized
- 27. Lyft alternatives 28. Chance to hit

room, say

- 29. Mowed path
- 30. Did a crossword in the waiting

- 32. Even a little
- 33. Like eggs over easy 34. "Heavens to
- 36. What polarized lenses reduce
- 41. What bills might become 42. 12 months before now
- 45. To the extent that
- 49. Longing
- 50. One who creates
- 51. Chatter indiscreetly 55. Charges, as at windmills
- 56. Alphabet
- 57. Corn or barley 59. Wee, cutesily
- 61. Certain 62. Lake by Toledo
- 64. Theater chain 66. Tree's "blood"
- 67. Weightlifter's pride, briefly

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541-432-3102 JosephUMC.ORG Pastor Cherie Dearth

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