

Local woman returns to work as a cosmetologist



By Bill Bradshaw

Ashlie McAfee sets up at Wanderlust Hair Parlor

JOSEPH — There's a new cosmetologist in town, now that Ashlie McAfee has set up her station at Wanderlust Hair Parlor on Joseph's Main Street.

McAfee has been preparing to set up shop since January for her Friday, April 1, opening. A newly minted cosmetologist, she already has a few clients lined up.

"It does take a little time to get everyone to know you," she said, though her local background helps.

Local roots

Ashlie is the daughter of Ron and Laurie McAfee and sister of Jack. The family has lived here for nine years, she said, adding that the family moved here from Silverton.

"I've been coming up here since I was about 4 months old," Ashlie McAfee said.

She graduated from Joseph Charter School in 2020 — the year the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

But that wasn't the only thing JCS students were dealing with that year. It was also the year the gymnasium at the school burned and filled the rest of the school with smoke.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Ashlie McAfee, a new cosmetologist at the Wanderlust Hair Parlor in Joseph, stands ready to welcome clients Thursday, March 31, 2022, as shop owner Megan Hall works on a client in the background. McAfee, a longtime Joseph resident, started work at the salon April 1.

"We were already dealing with that and then COVID hit," she said. "It was a really weird year."

After graduation, she attended the Paul Mitchell School in Boise, Idaho, to learn her trade. After 1,600 hours of study — about a year and two months — she became a licensed cosmetologist in Idaho, graduating in October.

"I transferred my license to Oregon and I'm just about there," she said.

McAfee said her dad works in sales at Main Street Motors in Enterprise, while her mom works at the Community Bank branch in Joseph.

Although she's new at

her trade, she is qualified to do hair, nails, skin care and makeup.

"In school, we had a lot of clients to work on and you got to familiarize yourself with all the services," she said. "You got to pick what you really love to do and what you're skilled at. I've always had a thing for coloring hair and makeup and a couple other things here and there."

Sporting wavy, breast-length auburn hair, the question comes to mind if her color is natural.

"I'm a natural blonde, but I've been dyeing my hair since I was about 13 years old," she said. "I'm almost 21, so it's been a while."

In those days — before college — she spent a lot of time "free-educating" herself, she said.

But she's now doing what she's always dreamed of.

"Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to do this," she said. "I'm very proud of myself for how far I've come."

Beauty philosophy

McAfee said she has her sights set on both success as a cosmetologist and in improving people's self-images.

"I feel like I've worked really hard to get where I am today and I want to make people feel good —

ASHLIE MCAFEE

What: cosmetologist at Wanderlust Hair Parlor

Where: 11 Main St., Joseph

Phones: 971-202-3119 (Ashlie) 503-840-9599 (Megan)

Emails: ashliemarie.am45@gmail.com meg-zhairbiz@gmail.com

Hours/days: Monday-Friday, occasionally weekends; call for appointment.

that's a big goal of mine," she said.

While she works on a person's outside, she believes that can help them feel good about themselves on the inside, too.

"That shines right through," she said. "I think everyone is like that. When people are in my chair, I want them to focus more on themselves as a person and not necessarily on their looks on the outside, but it plays a huge role in how someone looks at themselves. . . . My job is to help with that."

McAfee works alongside shop owner Megan Hall, who has owned the parlor since March 2020, another ominous start.

"I got shut down three weeks later at the start of the pandemic," Hall said, noting she was able to reopen that May. However, she said, she had to take another three months off for surgery.

Hall and McAfee said they look forward to a

planned remodel of the shop in which the flooring and back area will be replaced and the interior walls painted.

"It's going to look really good in here," McAfee said.

Hall is thrilled to have the young cosmetologist working alongside her.

"I love her. People think she's my sister, that we look like sisters — but I don't have blonde roots," she laughed.

Outside of work

When not at work, McAfee said she enjoys what Wallowa County has to offer.

"I like being in the mountains, side-by-side with my family is really fun," she said. "I love hanging out with my brother. He's great; we go on road trips around the county just looking around. I love my cats and I love art and painting."

She believes she has a talent for painting, which helps her at work, too.

"I think so and it comes in handy at doing makeup," she said.

But her top priority is becoming familiar with the community again.

"I'm excited to get to know everyone here in the county again," she said. "I was gone for a year so I have to refamiliarize myself with everyone."

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



& Skylight Gallery

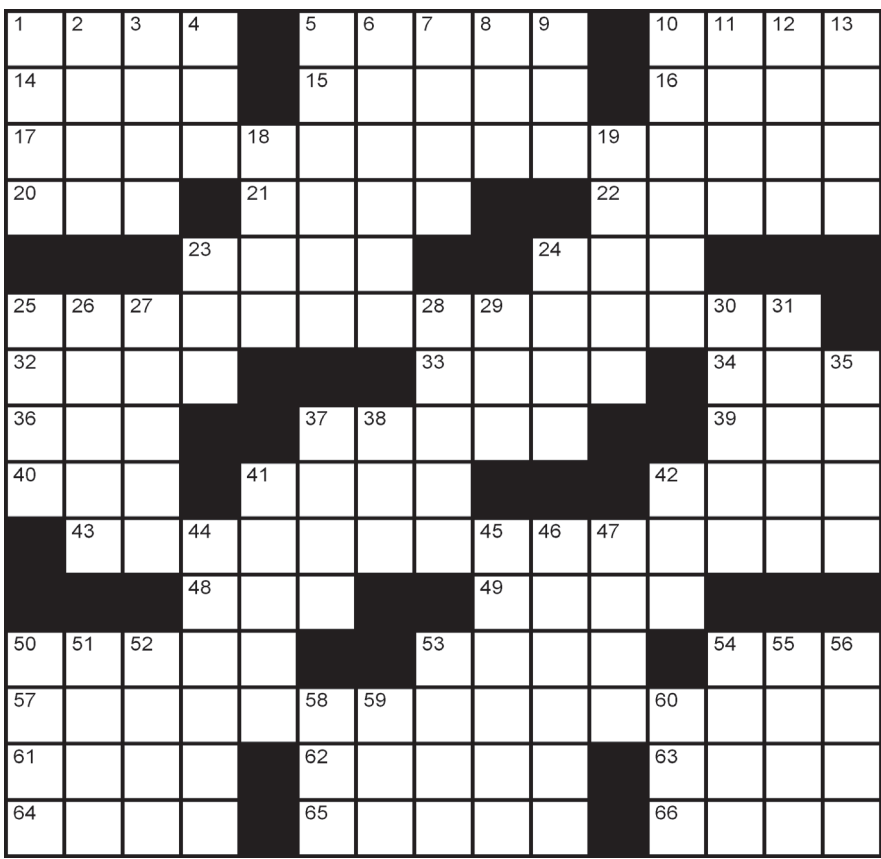
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CLUES ACROSS

- Polish for English class
- King with a golden touch
- Dec. holiday
- Fishing string
- Comforting comment
- Bang-up
- Save an idea for later
- Like a certain grin or wink
- Wrestling hold
- Became less intense
- Credit card company
- Disobedient
- Temporary solution
- They may blow off on a windy day
- Terrifying giant
- "Best in Show" org.
- Had a meal
- Back with a wager
- Knight's title
- Self starter?
- Island east of Java
- Reader (magazine)
- Bat mitzvah and first communion, e.g.
- Spanish "Bravo!"
- China setting?
- Type of bar with live music
- Got gray, say
- Clear the tables
- Loose collective advocating peace
- Clickable image
- One is beautiful on the inside
- Kind of clef
- "Drat!"
- Schindler of "Schindler's List"
- Farmer's furrow former

CLUES DOWN

- Trees that shade streets
- Old phone feature
- Jet-black
- Peg on a golf course
- Brunch beverage
- North Pole covering
- Like a dungeon
- Verb after "thou"
- Watery expanse
- Place described in "Kubla Khan"
- Cows' comments
- Penny, perhaps, in poker
- Apple product?
- Sacha Baron Cohen character
- Apartment contract
- No. 2 execs
- Owl's hangout
- Bygone Iranian royal
- Spud
- Comic Cheri
- Recurring theme
- Word before "surfing" or "trip"
- Person who believes Africa is the promised land
- Squeezing (out)
- Alberta native
- Monument's bottom
- "Strange Magic" band, to fans
- Not up on deck
- Philly's country
- Firming up, as muscles
- Chinese temple
- "Yours truly" alternative
- Fries, for instance
- Treated at a restaurant
- Cuzco citizen, once
- Gobs and gobs
- Frenziedly
- It rings in a ring
- Golden Rule preposition
- Load, like luggage
- Before now
- Hi- graphics
- Weather report graphic



Joseph United Methodist Church

3rd & Lake St. • Joseph
10 AM Worship
 Online AND In Person
 For More Info
 541-432-3102
 JosephUMC.ORG
 Pastor Cherie Dearth

Grace Lutheran Church

409 West Main - Enterprise
SUNDAY WORSHIP
 at 9am
 Pastor John B. King Jr
 phone (message): 541-426-4633
 web: gracelutheranenterprise.com

Enterprise Christian Church

85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449
 We have 'In-person worship' @ 9:00 am
 (Guidelines observed)
 Sunday School at 10:30
 Parking Lot Radio/Facebook @ 9:00
 David Bruce
 Pastor, Enterprise Christian Church

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise
 NE 3rd & Main St
 541-426-3439
 Worship Service
 Sunday 9:30am

Lostine Presbyterian Church

Discussion Group 9:30 AM
 Worship Service 11:00 AM
 Childrens program during service
 Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com
541.398.0597
 Hwy 82, Lostine
 Stephen Kliewer, Minister

Summit Church

Sundays at 10 am
 at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise
 Pastor: David Pendleton

 www.summitchurchoregon.org
 Cloverleaf Hall - 668 NW 1st St. - Enterprise, OR 97828

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Worship Service • 10:am
 Pastor Tim Barton
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Sunday School - 9:30 AM
Worship - 10:30 AM
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 School 541-426-8339
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