

Winery

Continued from B1

he continued to work nights while taking basic courses at the community college during the day. His math teacher would wake him up in the parking lot at 7 a.m. She and her mother are now Cerebella wine club members.

Zimmel's higher education was interrupted by deployment to Iraq just nine months after getting back from Afghanistan.

"I was an older student," he said. "I forgot a lot. I had to take chemistry over again."

He transferred to Washington State University's wine-making program at its Tri-Cities campus, while still working at night to support his family.

"While in school, I couldn't afford to waste a single minute," he said.

Zimmel graduated in 2014, but he'd already released his first label, a Malbec, in 2013.

"It won a couple of gold medals," he said.

Amy Code Madden, manager of her family's Rooster's Country

Kitchen restaurant in Pendleton, brought Zimmel to Pendleton after they became romantically involved. His business partners are her parents.

"Pendleton made perfect sense for a winery," Zimmel said. "Geographically, it's in the cradle of Columbia Valley vineyards. Pendleton has been very supportive. The city removes roadblocks rather than setting them up, from the mayor on down."

Zimmel said he was happy to trade the trauma of paramedic work for an environment in which people have smiles on their faces. Yet since the coronavirus struck, the restaurant business has been



Vern Sandy, Cerebella Winery assistant tasting room manager, is ready to pour a variety of wine Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, at the winery in downtown Pendleton.



Cerebella Winery Wine Club marketing manager Michele Metcalf, left, and Rooster Country Kitchen and Cerebella co-owner Bill Code host a wine tasting Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, while savoring a glass of their latest wine at Cerebella Winery in downtown Pendleton.

stressful. For months in the depths of the pandemic, Rooster's staff fell to three, providing takeout orders.

"We managed to keep the business going, so that the rest of the staff had jobs to return to," Zimmel said. "It changed the way we do business. Takeout orders are still a significant share, higher than before COVID."

Now inflation and high interest rates have slowed building plans.

"We hoped to add a patio for outdoor wine-tasting," Zimmel said. "But now our remodeling projects will have to be step by step."

Zimmel creates his award-winning wines with grapes using several varieties from the broad Columbia Valley American Viticultural Area, including some from the Red Mountain AVA within it. He makes red blends of three or four varieties and blueberry dessert wine by blending berries with caber-

net sauvignon brandy.

He said he hopes to expand his offerings from the present 12 wines to 20, and Michele Metcalf, wine club, tasting room and marketing manager, a 14-year industry veteran, aims to enlarge Cerebella's membership.

Rooster Country Kitchen and Cerebella co-owner Bill Code joins the wine tasting Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, to grab a glass and discuss their latest bottles at Cerebella Winery in downtown Pendleton.

Yasser Marte/East Oregonian



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— Robb Zimmel, winemaker and co-owner of Cerebella Winery

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Whimper
- 5 Ray gun blasts
- 9 Travel option
- 12 Merger or buyout
- 13 Lendl of tennis
- 14 French friend
- 15 Kind of fountain
- 16 Rome's fiddler
- 17 French wine
- 18 Slicker
- 20 Clamor
- 22 Hugo contemporary
- 25 Sit for a portrait
- 27 Heavy burden
- 28 Freedom, in slogans
- 29 Joined the chorus
- 33 — vous plaît
- 34 MacGraw of films
- 35 Bleat
- 36 Corp. biggie
- 38 Golf bag item
- 39 Prickly seeds

DOWN

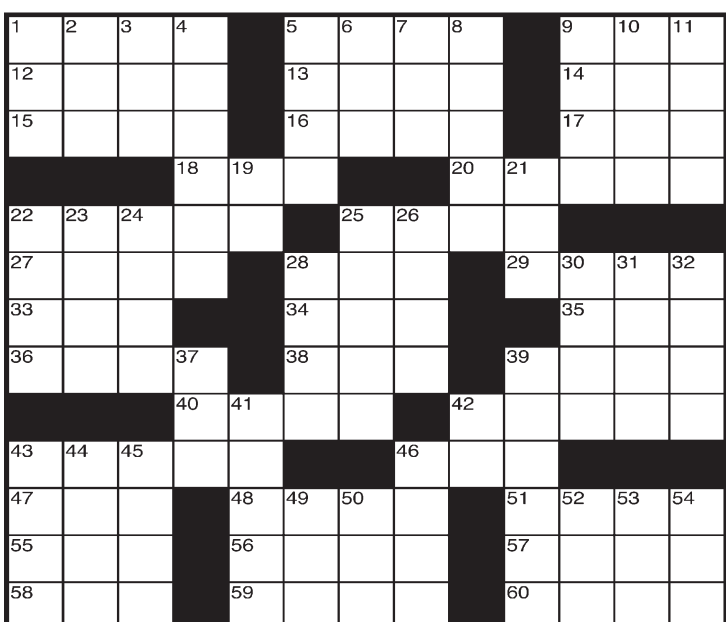
- 40 Did great
- 42 Make a pair
- 43 Gullible
- 46 Eland cousin
- 47 Eyebrow or rainbow
- 48 Need an aspirin
- 51 Portend
- 55 Honey dessert
- 56 Hang-glide
- 57 Aberdeen kids
- 58 Merry's opposite
- 59 Move little by little
- 60 Miss Kett of the comics
- 1 Rx writers
- 2 Help-wanted abbr.
- 3 Roll of bills
- 4 Camel kin
- 5 Nonrust coating
- 6 Gladiator's hello

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	O	M	S	B	O	A	S	R	U	E
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C	O	I	N	A	G	E	C	E		
		D	U	E	S	K	E	I	N	S
R	U	B	I	K	S	H	Y	B	E	N
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B	R	A	T	S	P	S		S	L	U

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- 7 — for the course
- 8 Social climbers
- 9 Coffey, slangily
- 10 Sultan's cousin
- 11 Rake tooth
- 19 Quick — a bunny
- 21 Brown of renown
- 22 Prescription info
- 23 DOS alternative
- 24 Wagon-train puller
- 25 Heaped
- 26 NYC theater award
- 28 Held up in traffic
- 30 Lean against
- 31 DEA operative
- 32 Nasty cut
- 37 Mav's foe
- 39 Gaudy trinket
- 41 Quit
- 42 Mall of America st.
- 43 Nods off
- 44 Opera solo
- 45 Frosted a cake
- 46 "Primal Fear" star
- 49 Ocean fish
- 50 Witch, to Shakespeare
- 52 Breakfast grain
- 53 Insect killer
- 54 That señora



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