



Contributed photos
Kathy Moss stands with her horse Hitch in this photo taken in 2015.

HORSES & HEALING

Moss' new book highlights therapeutic bond in the saddle

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

There are horse lovers, and then there is Kathy Moss, whose life has revolved around horses since early childhood.

Working with horses, writing about horses and speaking about horses has taken her from Prairie City to Canada to New York.

She was given her first pony, Mighty Mouse, when she was 2, and the bond went beyond competitions and ranch work.

Because her dad was a horse trader, she worked more horses than she could count before age 16.

"Pop would bring in mules, draft horses, spoiled horses, colts, mustangs, orphaned babies," she said.

Her job was to start them — catching, haltering, leading, saddling, harnessing, driving and loading them in a trailer.

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Canyon City author Kathy Moss, who writes under the pen name 'A.K. Moss,' signs dozens of books for her readers. 'From the Heart' is the final novel in a trilogy she's written.

"There is something in the brain that is therapeutic when the body feels the motion of a horse."

Kathy Moss, author

McLeod-Skinner challenges Walden to Eastern Oregon debate



U.S. Rep Greg Walden, left, and Jamie McLeod-Skinner.

No dates set, but challenger offers EOU as a venue

By Antonio Sierra
EO Media Group

Jamie McLeod-Skinner literally stopped traffic to get a debate with Rep. Greg Walden.

As documented on a video posted to McLeod-Skinner's cam-

paign Facebook page, the Terrebonne Democrat strode up to the cream-colored convertible Walden was riding in during the Chief Joseph Days Parade in Joseph Saturday and shook his hand.

"I would like to challenge you to at least three debates

within the district," she said. "I will debate you in every single county if you like."

McLeod-Skinner continued by telling the 10-term incumbent from Hood River that she would at least like him to debate her three times, one time each in

Eastern Oregon, Central Oregon and Southern Oregon.

Walden seemed to answer to affirmatively.

"I look forward to debating you," he said. "We'll figure out a schedule that works."

Then the parade had to move on.

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Ban on publicly funded abortion heads to ballot

By Paris Achen
Capital Bureau

A constitutional amendment to ban publicly funded abortion in Oregon has qualified for the statewide general election.

The Stop Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act — which will likely be called Measure 106 — had just enough valid signatures to secure a place on the ballot.

"We are really excited because we have been working at this since 2012," said Brooks resident Marilyn Shannon, one of the initiative's three chief sponsors. "We had a lot of road blocks."

The measure would prohibit the use of public funds to pay for abortions, unless medically necessary or



required by federal law.

"This does not outlaw abortions," Shannon said. "It just does not allow public money to pay for it."

The state spent about \$1.9 million in 2017-18 for abortions paid for by the Oregon Health Plan, the state's version of Medicaid, accord-

ing to the Oregon Health Authority. Abortion rights activists and others have formed a coalition — the No Cuts to Care campaign — to oppose the measure.

"This measure targets vulnerable Oregonians and individuals who are already stretched in terms of their means," said Emily McLain, executive director of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon. "This really could harm their access to health care."

Oregonians have consistently supported increasing access to reproductive health care, she said.

"I am confident they will vote no on Measure 106," she said.

Oregon is one of 17 states that use public funds for medically necessary abortions; 32 states and

the District of Columbia prohibit spending public funds on abortion, according to the Guttmacher Institute of Washington, D.C., a research and policy organization that advocates for sexual and reproductive health rights.

As a constitutional change, the measure needed at least 117,578 valid signatures to appear on the ballot.

The Secretary of State's Office determined that 117,799 were valid.

The office has dismissed an election complaint by Planned Parenthood alleging that the petitioners failed to disclose that they were using paid signature gatherers. An investigation into another complaint accusing petitioners of improper campaign finance reporting is still ongoing, McLain said.

