"We probably would've kept growing had the pandemic not happened. At the

"It brought our timeline forward a bit,

end of the day we're not worse off for it,"

but having a private operator who is less

constrained about what they can grow,

where they can sell, who they employ and

at what prices — I don't have much choice.

I have to pay all gov-

ernment

employ-

lic benefits.

restriction."

Despite

ees

and

They

have

PERS

don't

OFF THE BEATEN PATH Perfect mothers, imperfect moms

hen my children were young, I didn't look forward to Mother's Day with a sense of anticipation. It's not that I didn't love and want each child. And the children presented gifts of the heart — homemade lumps of clay they fashioned into "candy dishes." Sometimes I received special art projects — drawings of the family, the mother with hair sticking in the air. Gifts wrapped in school notebook paper and taped shut with black electrical tape. One year — a special cake.

With ceremony, they handed me a layered cake. The words written on top with frosting said, "HAPPY MOTH." I looked

"We ran out of room with the message," said a child.

"So, we had to bake another cake," said another child.

They presented me with the second cake. The rest of the message in frosting read: "ER'S

My challenge about Mother's Day — listening to accolades about Perfect Mothers.

You can always tell a Perfect Mother. They sew cute animal or swashbuckling pirate Halloween costumes. Imperfect Moms are at one with staplers and glue. Perfect Mothers never raise their voices and come to the breakfast table well-groomed and cheerful. Imperfect Moms holler, "What in the world are doing?"



Moultrie

ing the living room carpet," said an Imperfect Mom's child.

Perfect Mothers already have a spotless living

room carpet.

Imperfect Moms find a tot shampooing the carpet with a 3-pound can of shortening. Imperfect Moms lack child-raising skills. Or so I thought.

A friend commented that goals for mothering aren't sitting in a nearby box. "They are like stars, the ideals that we work for, we look for their light."

I think back to my childhood. I consider my mother a Perfect Mother. She fixed nutritious and tasty meals with the food ready on time. She kept our clothes washed and mended. She encouraged us in our homework. And she let us play in the mud.

One spring, the folks tilled up the area behind the back lawn for a garden. My brothers and I each received a small land allotment at one end. In time we determined that rocks constituted most of our garden area — even radishes wouldn't grow. Not to waste a perfectly good piece of property, my brothers and I developed the space into desirable kid real estate complete with lakes and canals. With a garden hose, we filled the water features and

floated boats. With our skills, it's amazing in future years we didn't major in hydrology.

My brothers and I found it satisfying to sit on the muddy bank, dangle our feet in our lake and squish mud between our toes.

Mother possessed the gift of imperturbability. She rarely got ruffled over our projects. However, after an afternoon of sloshing in muddy water and dike repairs, my brothers and I traipsed into the kitchen for a snack. Mom's voice carried surprisingly clear.

"Get back outside and hose off! You're dripping muddy water all over my freshly waxed

Even Perfect Mothers have

their challenges. Many people look after children: grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends, neighbors, teachers, foster and adoptive parents, etc. The humor aside, can there be anything more powerful, or needed, than a mother or mother figure providing kindness, love, and encouragement to children? Our heartfelt appreciation to each

Jean Ann Moultrie is a Grant Country writer. A compromise on the subject of nutrition was reached in the author's household when children agreed that carrot cake they bake is not considered one of the mealtime vegetables, and the author agreed not to sprinkle garbanzo bean sprouts on their pizza.

Greenhouse

Continued from Page Al

"The greenhouse is absolutely not a failure," Green insisted. "It did exactly what we intended it to do. I would do it again. I think we should do it again, probably with a private partner out of the gate this time, but

Green added that the plan was always

to take the greenhouse private or move to

a co-op arrangement because the facility

wasn't ever going to work with govern-

"What we didn't know was COVID. So

we lost time having to adapt to a very

dynamic marketplace with changing cus-

tomer preferences and needs as a result

of that pandemic. That happened to every

accelerated the timeline for moving the

greenhouse to private ownership, accord-

ing to Green, but he added that things hap-

The COVID-19 pandemic probably

"We knew that up front," he said.

didn't that have luxury 2017. Nobody was growing anything hydroponically in the valley four years ago."

enterprise."

pen for a reason.

GROWING HAD THE PANDEMIC NOT HAPPENED, AT THE END OF THE DAY WE'RE NOT WORSE **OFF FOR IT.**"

"WE PROBABLY WOULD'VE KEPT

he said.

Nick Green, John Day city manager

the monetary loss, Green said it would have been "highly unlikely" that the city would have gotten as much grant funding as it did for the wastewater treatment plant if the greenhouse had not been tied to the proposal. "What is the story without it? We're building a wastewater treatment plant, so give us money?"

"They've got a turnkey facility, the staff is ready to roll, they've got the seeds," he said. "We're going to partition the facility off into its own lot, lease the lot with the

buildings and let them roll."

Green added that he thinks the new owners of the greenhouse will be successful if the council approves the proposal to transfer operations.

Grant County HIELA LITH

OREGON CAPITAL

Get the inside scoop on state government and politics!





3850 10th St. 541-523-6377

62302 Pierce Rd. 541-963-6577

541-573-6377

Your Rural Family Health Clinic

Pregnancy Testing & ReferralsHIV Testing &

Primary Care Acute CareWomen's Health

Exams

Men and Children Exams Immunizations

Family Planning

 WIC High Risk Infants Maternity Case

Referrals



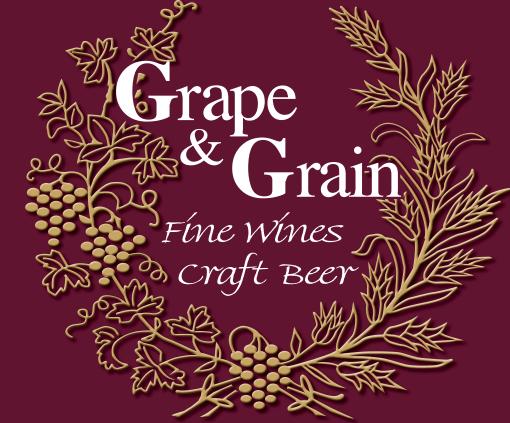
888-443-9104



541.575.1637

cutting back.

Beer and Wine Tasting & Sales, Meat & Cheese, Chocolates, Honey, **Specialty Cookies** Artisan Booths.



May 13, 2022, 6-9 PM at the Grant County Fairgrounds Pavilion

Silent Auction Raffle Baskets

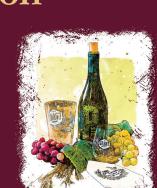
Proceeds will be donated to our local museums.

> **Food Provided** No additional Cost.

\$25/PERSON \$45/COUPLE IN ADVANCE \$50/COUPLE AT THE DOOR

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Chamber Office.

Each ticket is good for a wine or beer glass and 20 tokens. Tokens will be used for tastings.



Jeff Meyerholz will be the DJ for the evening.





Come Taste and Sample and Enjoy!













A Flower Shop and More





