



Maniac Softball and Baseball seasons start.....

Page 14A



Located in Clearwater County, Idaho, steelhead capital of the world • ClearwaterTribune.com

Clearwater Tribune

75 CENTS PLUS TAX
ONE SECTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022
Volume 109, Number 11

OROFINO, IDAHO 83544 - CLEARWATER COUNTY
SECOND CLASS (USPS 117-340)

CLEARWATER COUNTY CONSOLIDATED ELECTION UNOFFICIAL RESULTS MARCH 8, 2022

Precinct	Joint School Dist. No.171 Levy by Resolution		VOTING STATISTICS				
	IN FAVOR OF	AGAINST	Total Number of Registered Voters at Cutoff	Number Election Day Registrants	Total Number of Registered Voters	Number of Ballots Cast	% of Registered Voters That Voted
1 Orofino	38	18	647	1	648	56	8.6%
2 Orofino	55	10	604	0	604	65	10.8%
3 Orofino	42	19	722	0	722	61	8.4%
4 Orofino	29	8	409	0	409	37	9.0%
5 Orofino	51	19	590	0	590	70	11.9%
6 Fraser	25	25	96	0	96	50	52.1%
7 Greer	18	12	49	0	49	30	61.2%
8 Teakean	9	8	203	0	203	17	8.4%
9 Weippe	45	26	531	1	532	71	13.3%
10 Headquarters	8	11	56	0	56	19	33.9%
11 Ahsahka	26	7	356	0	356	33	9.3%
12 Pierce	27	6	347	0	347	34	9.8%
13 Elk River	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14 Grangemont	33	32	125	0	125	65	52.0%
Absentee	26	11	0	1	1	37	
CO. TOTAL	432	212	4,735	3	4,738	645	13.61%

NEZ PERCE CO			
Lenore # 28			1
Peck # 29	14	9	244
Gifford # 30			1
NEZ PERCE TOTAL	14	9	246

9.27%

LEWIS CO.			
Mohler # 7	2	0	2
West Kamiah # 2	0	4	11
LEWIS CO. TOTAL	2	4	13

DISTRICT TOTAL			
	448	225	4,994

Jt. School District #171 Supplemental Levy passes

Voters approved the Supplemental Levy for Joint School District #171 on Tuesday, March 8 in Clearwater County. There were 432 yes votes, and 212 votes against the levy.

The levy request was for \$2.685 million annually, at a rate of \$193 per \$100,000 of taxable assessed value. This levy was for the same amount that was on the 2020 ballot. Out of 4,738 registered voters in the county, 645 votes were cast, for a percentage of 13.61% voter turnout.

The school district will use the funds to operate day to day, and to fill the gaps in shortfalls across the district budget, according to school officials.



The Doghouse is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. and is soon to be open on Saturdays as well. Wendi Rich, owner, is shown standing by The Doghouse.



Customers, Vanessa Billups and Aaron, enjoy a spot of sunshine and treats from The Doghouse. There is actually quite a bit of seating, especially in the summer, when the garden is open with its picnic tables.

The Doghouse

By Lenta Hall

Opening day for Wendi Rich as the new owner of The Doghouse was on Oct. 1, 2021, after purchasing it in September of 2021. It was good timing because most of the lockdowns were ended and people were really anxious to get out and do something, even if it was still chilly outside. Business was good right from the get-go.

Wendi says she just, "Kind of came upon the business."

"I heard from a friend that Mark and Michelle Edwards were selling the business, so I came down to meet them. Michelle said, yes, they were selling."

"My daughter moved over here last year with my grandkids and I followed them. I came in November of 2020 and drove school bus for one year as a sub, but there was no opening for a permanent position."

"I was a school bus driver for 11 years in the western part of Washington. I grew up in Yakima."

It was for these reasons that she was open to taking up a new career and buying The Doghouse.

Many of her regular customers (See.....The Doghouse pg 8A)

Six-day weather forecast

Wednesday

A 20 percent chance of showers before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 52. Light and variable wind becoming southwest around 6 mph in the afternoon.

Wednesday Night

Partly cloudy, with a low around 33. West wind around 6 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Thursday

Partly sunny, with a high near 57. East southeast wind around 6 mph.

Thursday Night

A 40 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Friday

A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 57.

Friday Night

A chance of showers, mainly after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 40.

Saturday

Showers likely, mainly after noon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 56.

Saturday Night

Showers likely, mainly before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36.

Sunday

A chance of rain and snow showers. Snow level 1700 feet rising to 2300 feet in the afternoon. Partly sunny, with a high near 48.

Sunday Night

A slight chance of showers. Snow level 2600 feet lowering to 1900 feet after midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 34.

Monday

A chance of rain and snow showers. Snow level 1700 feet rising to 3200 feet in the afternoon. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 50.



At the Rex
Thurs-Sun March 17-20
OPEN 4 DAYS A WEEK
Daily Showtime 6:30 p.m.
ADMISSION PRICES:
• \$8 ticket per person • Under age 2 free!
Visit us on the Web! www.rextheater.us

Last Week's Weather			
	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Mar. 7	54	33	.00
Tuesday	47	34	.13
Wednesday	40	26	.00
Thursday	43	23	.00
Friday	49	34	.01
Saturday	65	39	.00
Sunday	56	43	.22

Last year's weather		
	Max.	Min.
Mar. 14	51	40
Tuesday	54	36
Wednesday	61	32
Thursday	71	38
Friday	55	37
Saturday	55	34
Sunday	54	39

Temps. are read the following morning for the previous day, i.e. Friday's listed temp. would be for Thursday.

Rural fire district Ad Hoc committee invites County Assessor and Tax Collector to next meeting

By Elizabeth Morgan

An update from the City's Ad Hoc committee meeting Feb. 25, with Orofino Rural Fire District (ORFD) was provided at the Orofino City Council meeting March 8.

City Administrator Ryan Smathers said he felt inclined to attend the committee meeting as there was some concern voiced by members of the rural district at the Feb. 22 council meeting regarding prior remarks made by Councilman Mark Swayne. ORFD committee members questioned whether Swayne's intentions were to sever ties with the district or work together to seek a feasible solution to continue fire protection services.

Swayne clarified that the city was "not interested in pushing for ORFD to be independent right now, but at some point in the future. We've got to start somewhere. The immediate goal is to work out an agreement."

Smathers explained the need to review the current contract and come up with a more equitable split of what ORFD is paying Orofino Fire District (OFD). Currently, ORFD has the second lowest levy rate of all nine districts, even though it is one of the largest of districts and continues to grow.

Smathers also questioned why ORFD taxes property owners for both land and structure, when no other district in the state does. Further discussion brought all committee members to agree that taxation for fire protection of land could be done away with as C-PT-PA responds to wildland fires.

To do this, Smathers recommended to dis-ban ORFD and reassemble to set a new levy rate that will only tax structures.

Jerry Johnson, an ad hoc committee member, raised the possibility of charging a flat rate instead of a percentage taxation.

It was noted that the school district had looked at this option as well in the past. One of the main

reasons the proposal was dismissed is due to the huge discrepancy in structure values across the county.

How could one ask the family living in a single wide mobile home to pay the same rate as their neighbors in the mansion next door for education? What about for something as vital as fire protection?

The committee would like to ask Dawn Erlewine and Susan Spencer, County Tax Collector and Assessor, respectively to attend their next meeting to discuss this option further. The date of the next ad hoc committee meeting will depend on Erlewine and Spencer's availability. The Clearwater Tribune will do their best to notify the public of the date and time in advance.

Statistical data for fire calls within the past three years will be studied to better understand the cost of fires. Having a better idea of the actual dollar amount for which the city is asking, will aid in the consideration of increasing rates to not only meet the new contract for current operations, but to begin saving for an independent district as well.

Smathers assured the council of an update at every council meeting until an agreement is reached.

During the approval of minutes and bills paid, Councilman Doug Donner asked about several items to include \$5,000 to retain the services of Thomas, Dean and Hoskins (TD&H) of Idaho, Inc.

Road and drainage issues at Westgate

Further discussion revealed TD&H, who works very closely with LEAP Foundation will create the preliminary design to bring the roads and drainage situation at Westgate Addition subdivision up to standards. County Commissioners have placed a moratorium on building any more homes in

(See.....Rural fire district pg 8A)

Wednesday, April 27, will be the last issue to run Political Letters to the Editor concerning the May 17 election. Political Letters submitted after the April 27 issue will be submitted as paid advertisements

Correction

The information for the Declarations of Candidacy listed in the March 9 issue of the Clearwater Tribune should have stated that Helen Clark is running for Clearwater County Clerk, Republican.

School Board meets March 21

The Joint School District 171 Board of Trustees will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Mar. 21, at Peck Elementary School. The meeting is also accessible virtually via Zoom Link or may be watched live on YouTube.

Items on the agenda include building and program reports.

Trustees will discuss the upcoming Law Conference in April, the Board Clerk, the District's Purpose Statement and Spring 2022 Policy updates.

Action Items include the approval of the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Calendars; Board Clerk; Emergency closure days; Surplus items; Employee supplemental 457 Plan; Student employment policy; Purpose Statement and New hires and separations.