

COMFORT FOOD

Indulge without overindulging and still satisfy cravings with these recipes.

LIFE & LIVING, C1

GOLFIN' OWLS

Oregon Tech golf plays well at third annual Oregon Tech Invitational.

SPORTS, B1



Superfly!
\$40 for \$80 Overnight Stay (Rm. 4)
Historic PINEHURST INN
heraldandnews.com/superfly

WEDNESDAY
September 23, 2015

Mostly sunny.
77/36
Page B6

Herald and News

empowering the community | www.heraldandnews.com Klamath Falls, Oregon \$1

City buys prominent downtown building

By HOLLY DILLEMUTH
H&N Staff Reporter

A new owner for the Balsiger building could mean demolition of the structure, a new site development, and an economic catalyst for the rest of the downtown cor-

ridor in the near future.

The city of Klamath Falls committed to spend \$250,000 for the dilapidated downtown building Monday night, with a unanimous vote from city council.

"It will be a catalyst for the entire downtown," said

Councilwoman Trish Seiler. "The city is in the best position to do this. We won't see a private developer step forward and the building and the property will continue to deteriorate."

The purchase of eight lots on 1305 Main Street at the

corner of Esplanade could mean a possible partnership between a development firm interested in constructing ground-level retail space and up to 75 apartments on site.

A Portland based firm recently presented such a proposal to council members

for the Balsiger building. No actions have been taken on the development side, but a decision to buy the building puts the city in the driver's seat to secure a developer.

A LONG PROCESS
The decision to buy the

building comes after months of discussion about how to approach a building that has been vacant since at least 2008, when a large load of snow collapsed the middle portion of the property.

More BUILDING | A3

Pot banned: Recall petition filed



H&N PHOTO BY SAMANTHA TIPLER

Ilo and Melissa Ferroggiaro filed a petition Tuesday to recall Klamath County Commissioner Tom Mallams.

Klamath County Commission unanimous against pot sales

By SAMANTHA TIPLER
H&N Staff Reporter

Klamath County commissioners continued their fight against marijuana Tuesday, when all three voted in favor of a ban on medical and recreational marijuana dispensaries. "I think we've lost the war on marijuana," said commissioner Jim Bellet. "We've been fighting

RELATED STORY
Klamath Falls City Council also bans pot sales. See Page A3

this war for decades. A few battles have been won. Most of the war has been lost. I don't think this war should continue forever."

More POT | A3

Mallams targeted for recall

By SAMANTHA TIPLER
H&N Staff Reporter

A Klamath Falls couple and business owners filed to recall Klamath County Commissioner Tom Mallams Tuesday.

Ilo and Melissa Ferroggiaro filed the recall petition just minutes after the conclusion of the county meeting where the commissioners voted to ban medical and recreational marijuana dispensaries, producers and wholesalers in the county.

The Ferroggiaros own Laughing Lotus Farms, a medical marijuana dispensary they have been trying to open in the county for more than a year.

The Ferroggiaros were more bothered by Mallams admitted refusal to follow water laws. In a Sept. 10 Herald and News article, he admitted to illegally pumping water at his farm, violating state water rules.

More RECALL | A3

Sage grouse plan aims for balance

Officials say bird species does not need Endangered Species Act listing

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A cooperative effort to save a ground-dwelling bird has diverted it from possible extinction, federal officials declared Tuesday, as they sought to safeguard the habitat of a declining species while maintaining key pieces of the American West's economy — oil and gas drilling and ranching.

The Obama administration said the greater sage grouse does not require Endangered Species Act protections, walking a fine line with its assertion that economic development and preservation can coexist across the bird's 11-state range.

But critics from each side of the political spectrum quickly denounced the move, concentrating on new plans signed in conjunction with the decision that will guide the use of 67 million acres of public lands.

Industry representatives and some Republicans claim the plans would unnecessarily lock up land from drilling, mining and other uses. Wildlife advocates countered that loopholes in those plans still would allow drilling, further threatening the chicken-sized grouse.

Tuesday's announcement reversed a 2010 finding that the bird was headed toward possible extinction as development cut into its vast but shrinking sagebrush habitat ranging from California to the Dakotas.



Jewell

More GROUSE | A7

DAILY BRIEFING

LA has homeless emergency
On Tuesday, having looked at numbers showing the city's homeless population has increased more than 10 percent over the past two years, LA officials announced they have decided enough is enough. See page A7

VW scandal expands
Volkswagen AG's smog-test scandal escalated Tuesday as the company acknowledged putting stealth software in millions of vehicles worldwide. The crisis has already cost VW more than \$26 billion in market value. See page A8

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OBITUARIES

Christopher Parazoo, 41
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GET HEALTHY, KLAMATH!

COMMON BUT PREVENTABLE
Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer among women. Klamath County lags far behind the national benchmarks for women who receive mammography screenings.

START NOW:
Regular screening can often find breast cancer early when treatments are more likely to be successful. Staying at a healthy weight, being physically active, and limiting how much alcohol you drink can help reduce your risk of breast cancer.

Go to healthyklamath.org to learn more.

KLAMATH BASIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH KBBH
SKY LAKES MEDICAL CENTER