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INSIDE



Flying to their new homes

Puppies travel via plane to Klamath Falls
See page A2

FRIDAY
Dec. 6, 2013

Mostly cloudy; snow, cold
27/10
Page B6

Herald and News

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South African leader Nelson Mandela dies at 95

Leaves legacy of racial reconciliation

McClatchy News Service

JOHANNESBURG — Nelson Mandela, who emerged from more than a quarter-century in prison to steer a troubled African nation to its first multiracial democracy, uniting the country and becoming a symbol of racial reconciliation around the world,

died Thursday. He was 95. South African President Jacob Zuma made the announcement in a somber televised address to the nation Thursday. "Fellow South Africans, Nelson Mandela brought us together, and it is together that we will bid him farewell," Zuma said. Long before his release in

1990, at age 71, Mandela was an inspiration to millions of blacks seeking to end the oppression of more than four decades of apartheid, and his continued imprisonment spawned international censure of South Africa's white-minority government. Successive white South African leaders had portrayed him as a dangerous terrorist. But



Mandela

when Mandela was freed after 27 years, he surprised many by saying he bore no ill will toward his white Afrikaner jailers. Preaching reconciliation, he guided the nation through four years of on-again, off-again constitutional talks, using his moral authority to address the demands of an impatient black majority while, at the same time,

winning over suspicious whites. Mandela and the man who released him, President Frederik W. de Klerk, shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. A year later, Mandela, the son of a tribal chief, succeeded de Klerk after a historic, peaceful election, the images of which were seared into the memory of a global audience. See **MANDELA**, page A8

❄️ Klamath Falls 2013 Snowflake Parade ❄️

RIGHT: A few groups of horses trotted down Main Street for the annual Snowflake Parade. H&N photos by Steven Silton

To read about the Snowflake Mile, which took place before the parade, and to see more pictures from this year's event, turn to page A3.



LEFT: A few members of the Mazama marching band decided to dress for the holidays during the Snowflake Parade.

Holiday replay

Did you miss the Snowflake Parade? The Klamath Falls Government Channel will show video of this year's Snowflake Parade on Charter channel 15 and online at kfgov.com.



'Commission qualified'

Bellet sees no need for county administrator

Voters may get to decide on issue on May 2014 ballot

By **SAMANTHA TIPLER**
H&N Staff Reporter

Klamath County Commissioner Jim Bellet believes he could be the county administrator if the ballot measure establishing a county charter and adding an administrator position were approved by voters.



Bellet

At the commissioners' weekly meeting on Tuesday, Bellet ran through the list of qualifications for an administrator, and listed the ways he felt he was qualified. He mostly drew from his 40-year career as owner of Bellet Construction and Bullet Rentals and Sales. He called himself and the other commissioners the chief executive officers of the county.

"Do I, as CEO that was duly elected in Klamath County to be the CEO, have the qualifications to be an administrator?" Bellet asked. "I think that I do. So, I could actually hire out as the administrator, or you hired me to do that job as the CEO, as one of the three commissioners. We're all CEOs. We have a responsibility to be the CEO."

On Monday Kate Marquez and the Citizens for Positive Change submitted a ballot proposal to establish a Klamath County charter which stipulates hiring a county administrator. The roughly \$200,000 position (including benefits) would be paid for by reducing the county commissioner salaries to \$2,000 a month plus benefits and a travel stipend.

See **BELLET**, page A5

Weekender

Best bets for this weekend with Doug Higgs



It's commonly known that Santa Claus consumes cookies and milk during his Christmas Eve delivery of gifts for good boys and girls, but it's not as well known that he eats breakfast.

So to bring awareness of this, the 14th annual Breakfast with Santa will be offered in the Klamath County Museum with Santa

and Mrs. Claus greeting families from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday.

Admission is free with a donation to CASA of Klamath County encouraged.

The menu includes ham and pancakes with milk or orange juice. The museum's annual pancake tossing contest will be offered during the breakfast with prizes for

those participating.

Santa will remain in the museum through noon.

■ A comedy, "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)" will be performed by the Linkville Players at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday in the Linkville Playhouse.

See **WEEKEND**, page A5

DAILY BRIEFING

'Tis the season to lend a hand to those in need

The Klamath Basin is full of volunteer opportunities this holiday season. Find out how you can give back to your community and spread some Christmas cheer. See page A7.



Xander No. 3 pug of 2013

The beloved blind service dog has received national recognition from an Internet countdown. See page A2.

AFTER PEARL HARBOR

Coming Saturday

The Herald and News commemorates the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor during WWII with a special section.

Look for 'After Pearl' in the Dec. 7 H&N

INDEX

Vol. No. 23,484

Annie's Mailbox.....	B6
Obituaries.....	A4
City/Region.....	A2
Classified.....	C1-7
Comics, crossword.....	C8
Forum.....	A6
Law enforcement.....	B5
Lotteries.....	B3
Sports.....	B1-3

OBITUARIES

Henry Armstrong, 70
Helen Cahill, 88

— See page A4



HEALTHY Klamath

The student/teacher ratio in Klamath County is **19.9** students per teacher (not a measure of class size)



Why is this important?

The student-teacher ratio gives a rough idea of the amount of individualized attention from teachers that is available to each student. Although it is not the same as class size, the student-teacher ratio is often a reasonable alternative on which to base estimates of class size. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, larger schools tend to have higher student-teacher ratios.

The Community Partners Seeking Better Health want to improve this number. To learn more, go to: www.healthyklamath.org or scan the QR code.

Scan the QR code to learn more



Did You Know?

Community Partners Seeking Better Health