

TAMKALIKS

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pace, and began to move, began to gallop. And you could hear him saying, 'Now we are rejoicing. Look around you. ... We are together yet. Now stand up and shake each other's hand. We're here today.'

"That was our memorial. That is what we teach our children today," Redstar said. "Take care of the pain that's inside and bring it out. But also teach them how to take care of that pain in the days ahead."

The dance competitions begin at 1 p.m. Saturday with the Grand Entry. This entry parade is led by veterans who will carry the U.S. flag as well as the Nez Perce's eagle staff. Dancers and elders follow. The ceremony includes prayers, songs and drumming. Competitive dancing follows.

Dances include categories for senior men and senior women, and dances for children. Dances to watch include the Men's Traditional, Men's Fancy Dance, Men's Grass Dance, Women's Shawl

Dance and Women's Jingle Dress Dance. The Grass Dance has its origins with Great Plains peoples, and also would have served the Nez Perce well.

It may have originated as a ceremony or exercise to trample down high grasses for a campsite. Plains tribes also say that it originated as a way for a handicapped boy to learn to dance by imitating the swaying grasses on the prairie.

The Friendship Feast is a highlight of Tamkaliks. In 2018 more than 600 people shared salmon, buffalo, and a wide variety of potluck dishes. The line was long and stretched almost halfway around the dance arbor. Elders and honored guests are served first at tables set up in the dance arbor.

Tamkaliks concludes Sunday afternoon with dances that are fun and non-competitive, with traditional categories for men, women and children. The event wraps up about 5 p.m. with awards for the dancers who won their categories and a closing ceremony.

Tamkaliks is on Whiskey Creek

Road just south of Wallowa on 320 acres along the Wallowa River. During the festival, vendors from around the Northwest sell a variety of food including Indian fry bread, along with handmade goods like moccasins, jewelry, leather and beaded purses. You'll find some Nez Perce vendors among the plethora of more commercial booths.

Historic bridges, bedecked with informative interpretive signs, link the powwow grounds to the town of Wallowa and provide easy access to the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Interpretive Center. The steep hill on the north side of the grassy meadow and dance arbor is known as Tick Hill.

A trail from the valley floor winds up to the top. Interpretive signs along the way explain plants, animals and Nez Perce life. The view from the top provides a nice overview of the Wallowa Mountains and the fertile lower Wallowa Valley, home to the Wallowa Band Nez Perce for thousands and thousands of years.

Schedule of events

In 2019, Tamkaliks' schedule has changed slightly with the addition of a Veterans' Dance and two new dances on Saturday night. As always, Tamkaliks will begin Friday evening with social dancing, singing and drumming, at 7 p.m. at the dance arbor on the Homeland Project's grounds. Note that some events may start slightly later than their scheduled times.

FRIDAY, JULY 19:

- All day: Wallowa Band Nez Perce Homeland Interpretive Center open.
- All day: Arrival and camp setup for participants. Arrival and booth setup for vendors.
- All day: Nez Perce Homeland Interpretive Center open.
- 7 p.m. Social Dance, singing and drumming.

SATURDAY, JULY 20:

- All day: Wallowa Band Nez Perce Homeland Interpretive Center open.
- 9 a.m. Memorial Horse Procession.
- 1 p.m. Grand Entry.
- 1:30 p.m. (approximate) Dance competition. Includes men's,

- women's, and youth dances.
- 7 p.m. Veterans' Dance.
- 8 p.m. (approximate) Slick Style and Short Fringe special dances.
- SUNDAY, JULY 21:**
- All day: Wallowa Band Nez Perce Homeland Interpretive Center open.
- 9 a.m. Washat Service at the Longhouse.
- Noon: Friendship Feast. Please come early and bring a dish to share.
- 2 p.m. Grand Entry
- 2:30 pm (approximate) Non-competitive dancing, with categories for men, women, children and families.
- 5 p.m. (approximate) Contest dancing awards.

RESCUE

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Mulhair flipped onto her stomach to try to grab something, but slipped off the cliff's edge.

Hill immediately called 911 and the search and rescue team responded first. The SAR volunteers assembled a rope line so that an SAR EMT could reach Mulhair to assess her injuries. Because daylight was fading, they used car headlights and flashlights to generate sufficient lighting until the fire department arrived.

"Besides the lack of light, we are grateful things worked out the way they did," Mora said.

Once an ambulance was on the scene, two more responders rappelled down to Mulhair to assist with her injuries and with getting her up the side of the cliff

Due to the severity of her injuries, a Life Flight helicopter was called to transport her to Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland, Washington. It was difficult to bring Mulhair up in the basket, according to Mora. Because it wasn't an entirely vertical cliff, the rescuers had to navigate a series of ledges.

Mulhair sustained multiple injuries in her fall, including four broken ribs on her left side, a broken nose, a broken right hip, and her right femur was broken in three places. Mulhair's sister, Andrea Borges, of La Grande said more injuries may be discovered as testing continues. Since arriving at the hospital, Mulhair has had surgery to place a rod in her right leg and surgery to correct her hip.

"She is awake, although she did lose consciousness," Borges said. "She is in a ton of pain, and her face is unrecognizable."

Mulhair lives in La Grande with her two children, ages 9 and 2. Right now they are staying with Mulhair's youngest sister. Mulhair works as a babysitter and is a homemaker. The family has set up a gofundme page to help with medical expenses. She is expected to make a full recovery, but will be closely monitored to fight against the likelihood of infection and blood clots, according to Borges.

While her injuries are serious, Mulhair is lucky that SAR was in the right place at the right time. Not all are so fortunate. In 2016, 27-year-old Warren Webb, of La Grande, died in a climbing accident in the Indian Rock area.

"When I realized they were all together and able to get to her that fast," Borges said about the search and rescue team, "I thought that was God saving my sister. Had she been alone, she would be dead right now."

PROGRAM

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The release said that while more than 300,000 children are eligible for free or reduced lunches during the school year, only 38,908 participate in the Summer Food Service Program, which aims to ensure children and teens have access to nutritious meals when school is not in session. A federally funded, state-administered program, SFSP reimburses operators who serve free healthy meals and snacks in their communities.

In La Grande, summer lunches are provided by Community Connection of Northeast Oregon. In 2018, 5,698 free lunches were served to youth ages 1-18 in La Grande. This year the organization is again serving free lunches to children at the Riviera Activity Center, 2609 Second St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Adults can eat with their children for \$4.

"Serving the children of Union County a nutritious meal during the summer months (is) important," said Jeff

Hensley, assistant executive director for Community Connection of Northeast Oregon. "We have been doing it since 2005, and this year we are averaging 96 children a day."

While this is an impressive number, statistics indicate that other local children who may not have access to healthy meals in the summer are not participating in the lunch programs. In La Grande 1,123 students were eligible for free or reduced lunch during the 2018-19 school year, according to the Oregon Department of Education Database Initiative Report.

"When school is out during summer, some students may not get the nutrition or learning opportunities they need, causing a 'summer gap' that is difficult to make up once school starts again in the fall," ODE Summer Meals Outreach Coordinator Jessica Visinsky said in the press release. "We want to turn that summer gap into a summer boost through access to healthy meals and enrichment programs that support a child's educational and physical growth."

Many of the state's meal programs also offer activities so students can stay active and keep learning, according to www.summerfoodoregon.org. In Wallowa County, "Summer Lunch in the Park" programs include education activities for students to help prevent students from falling behind during their time away from the classroom, according to a press release from Building Healthier Families, which coordinates the free summer lunch program in the county.

Building Healthy Families provides free lunches from noon to 12:30 p.m. at the Enterprise City Park, the Joseph City Park and the Wallowa City Park Monday through Thursdays.

In 2018 the free lunch program in Wallowa County served 2,367 meals during the summer.

Though both counties programs are federally funded, it costs more than what they are given to keep the program running. Through community donations Wallowa county's programs have continued run at multiple sites.

SIGNING

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with English Lord Alistair Coronet as they hunt and protect people from creatures and beings in folklore. In his first book, "Alistair Coronet and the Woven Cave," readers were introduced to the characters and their world. His newest book, "Alistair Coronet and the Unicorn's Mare," continues their adventures with new characters and stories.

Wallis, from Burns, published the novels through Amazon after facing rejection letters from traditional publishers. After graduating he moved out of La Grande, but is returning for the book signing.

Since self-publishing, Wallis has gained a strong readership. He has sold 53 physical copies, 120 digital copies and had more than 500 downloads during a giveaway. Wallis said although his audience is relatively small, he has received only positive feedback.

"Jordan Wallis brings his characters to life and takes the reader through an adventure with a dramatic conclusion," reader Matthew Baxter said in his Amazon review. "A

sweeping story that is both spellbinding and tense. It moves through the pages at breakneck speed toward an inevitable final confrontation between Alistair and the evil within."

Wallis was inspired to begin his series while working with his mother's writers group, the Harney Basin Writers. Wallis was giving feedback on the writing group's stories when he decided to write something for them. That little blurb expanded to become the first book.

"I got about three-quarters of the way through it and my brother told me, 'If you don't finish this, I'm going to smack you,'" Wallis said. "I was reading it to my family as I went. They said, 'You really should publish this.'"

Though he began studying computer programming at EOJ, he ended with a degree

in theater arts with a focus on playwriting. According to him, this background has helped him create believable characters.

He is currently working on the third book in the series. He has a total of seven books planned for the series' overarching narrative.

"Having authors come gives them a chance for exposure," Chuck Peters said. "When people listen to authors talk about their books, it's more intimate."

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- Crazy Days & Grande Ronde-a-View Car Show - July 19-21 Activities include a fireman's breakfast, sidewalk sales, children's activities, exhibits, & more
- CJRA Association Junior Rodeo July 20-21 Mavericks Arena, Double Header
- Elgin Museum Ribbon Cutting - July 22 At the museum at noon

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