

COURTHOUSE CONCERT SERIES RETURNS TO ENTERPRISE JULY 1

By Katy Nesbitt
Go! Magazine

ENTERPRISE — Live music is back at the Wallowa County Courthouse Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. from July 1 through Sept. 2.

Last year's season was interrupted, due to COVID-19 restrictions, and concert goers will be happy to return to the downtown Enterprise venue — the shady side of the courthouse lawn on southeast 1st Street.

A few years ago an informal decision was made to move the band set-up to behind the courthouse instead of the gazebo, said Janis Carper, Wallowa Valley Music Alliance president.

"It sort of happened by accident," Carper said. "In the heat of the summer our audience would sit way back from the stage. Now people can get closer, it's shadier and not as windy, and the acoustics are good with the concrete behind, creating a natural amphitheater."

The series used to start in June, Carper said, but was pushed out until July for a couple reasons.

"It seems like it rained every Thursday in June and we added the September show so as to offer music a couple days ahead of Juniper Jam."

Carper said the newer arrangement also allows for more seating on the lawn. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic, friends and families, as well as low-back chairs or blankets to maximize comfort during the 90-minute concerts.

One of the duos featured this summer is Larry and Peggy Haney of Wallowa who bring their folk/Americana style of music, played on piano and guitar. Carper said Larry Haney is a songwriter and some of his songs have a Native American influence.



Contributed photo

The Wallowa County Courthouse Concert Series kicks off July 1 with Margo Cilker and Jezebel's Mother (Janis Carper and Carolyn Lochert)

Long-time favorites like Sons of Guns and Wasteland Kings from La Grande return this summer with their rock and roll vibe.

The series starts July 1 with a double header of two local favorites — the popular duo "Jezebel's Mother" featuring original songwriting and luscious harmonies of Carper and her long-time collaborator Carolyn Lochert, and Margo Cilker, who writes and performs her own version of country music.

Other popular acts like Joy and Matt Bell, Hillfolk Noir and Elwood are also returning to Wallowa County as well as Joey Carper, who will perform the last of the series in another double header with Sam Weber, one of the performers at this year's Juniper Jam, Wallowa County's songwriter music festival at the fairgrounds, Sept. 4.

Concerts are free, supported by donations and grants from the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners, Wallowa County Cultural Trust Coalition and City of Enterprise.

For a full schedule and links to each of the bands, visit <https://wv-musicalliance.org>.

FROM IAMBIC PENTAMETER TO SWORD FIGHTING

Elgin Opera House offers Shakespeare youth theater workshop

ELGIN — This summer the Elgin Opera House invites youth age 10-18 to join a one-week Shakespeare workshop, beginning with "Shakespeare 101: The who, what, where and why we do Shakespeare today" July 26 and concluding with a performance July 30.

Other topics covered during the week include learning the rules of how to speak the iambic pentameter of Shakespearean plays and learning the tricks of understanding the language; costumes, props and stage combat; and soliloquies, speeches and scenes. The learning culminates with rehearsals and a performance on Friday.

The workshop will be held at the Opera House, 100 N. Eighth



Shakespeare workshop set for July 26-30 at Elgin Opera House.

St., Elgin, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. (Participants will bring their own lunch.) The cost of the week-long course is \$85. Pre-registration is required. For more

information and to register go to www.elginoperahouse.com or call 541-663-6324.

Not too late to sign up for Summer Fishtrap classes

ENTERPRISE — The 34th Summer Fishtrap Gathering will be virtual. There are still some spots open for this year's online workshops, set for July 12-18. The virtual format provides the opportunity to attend Summer Fishtrap without having to travel. Go to <https://fishtrap.org/summer-fishtrap-2021-workshops/> for more information and to claim a spot in one of the workshops, which are limited to 13 people each.

Summer Fishtrap includes a keynote address by Frank X Walker Saturday, July 17, at 6 p.m. Tickets to the livestream are \$25 for the public and may be purchased at <https://fishtrap.regfox.com/sfg2021-keynote>. Admission to the keynote is included for Summer Fishtrap and Yearlong registrants.



Frank X Walker

Walker has published 10 collections of poetry, including "Turn Me Loose: The Unghosting of Medgar Evers," which was awarded the 2014 NAACP Image Award for Poetry. He is also the author of "Buffalo Dance: The Journey of York," winner of the 2004 Lillian Smith Book Award. He is a professor of English and African American and Africana Studies at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

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