

42

WHAT TO DO

MEACHAM 70.2 inches

Festivals

The Big Read

Thursdays through Feb. 9, 7 p.m. Various venues in Wal-lowa County www.fishtrap.org

Most events free. This year's book is "The Things They Carried," a novel by Tim O'Brien. The Feb. 9 screening of "Good Morning Vietnam" is \$5. Event finale (\$10) features a '60s Fashion Show, potluck dinner and dance party Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.

Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race

Jan. 18-21 Joseph, Enterprises, Fer-gi Ski Area www.eaglecapextreme.com

Free, except banquet, which is \$20/adults, \$8/ages 5-12, free/4 and under. People can watch the race, meet and visit with mushers during vet checks and a meet-and-greet and buy merchandise. The banquet, which is a fundraiser, includes an auction and live entertainment.

Melenville Comedy Festival

Saturday, Jan. 28; 8 p.m. Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395 www.melenvillecomedy-festival.com

\$35. Features Dwight Slade, Gabriel Rutledge and Chase Mayers. No-host bar and food available.

Robert Burns Supper

Saturday, Jan. 28; 2 p.m. Elks Lodge \$30/couple, \$17/single. In its 20th year, the event celebrated the poet Robert Burns with food, fun and a toast to the Scottish national poet.

Art & Museums

First Draft Writers' Series

Thursday, Jan. 19; 7 p.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. www.pendletonarts.org

Free. Features Joe Wilkins, author of a memoir, "The Mountain and the Fathers: Growing Up on the Big Dry." The Linfield College writing teacher's poetry collection, "When We Were Birds," was selected by Billy Collins for the Miller Williams Poetry Prize Series. Also, short open mic readings from the audience.

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Monday-Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Betty Feves Memorial Gallery, BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

Free. Features collage art of Cory Peeke, director of Nightingale Gallery and art professor at Eastern Oregon University. Gallery also open

31

PENDLETON Airport, 30.9 inches

by appointment by calling 541-278-5952. Runs through Feb. 9.

Biennial Faculty Exhibition

Monday-Fridays; 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Nightingale Gallery, Loso Hall Eastern Oregon University, La Grande www.eou.edu/art

Free. Gain an in-depth look at the recent studio practices of exhibiting professors Jaime Gustavson, Nathan Prouty, Michael Sell, Jessie Street and Kerri Rosenstein. Runs through Feb. 10.

Student art display

Monday-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

27

HEPPNER 27.5 inches

Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn St., Baker City www.crossroads-arts.org

Free. Features art created by students of Baker County. Runs through Jan. 28.

New Year 2017

Tuesday-Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Peterson's Gallery, 1925 Main St., Baker City www.petersonsgallery.net Free. Features a collection of some of the most sought after and requested artists represented at the gallery in 2016. Runs through Jan. 31.

Music

Cabin Fever

Saturday, Jan. 14 and 21; 5:30 p.m., doors open for Dutch oven dinner; 6:30 p.m., show only

Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395 \$38/dinner show, \$15/show only. John Wambecke & Friends present a musical variety show. Tickets available at Cottage Flowers, 1725 N. First St., Hermiston.

Chamber Winds

Postponed Hamley Slickfork Saloon, 8 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton www.oregoneastsymphony.org

\$20/adults, \$15/students, seniors, \$45/family. New date to be announced.

Thrillride

Saturday, Jan. 14; 8 p.m. No cover Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Cale Moon

Saturday, Jan. 20; 9 p.m. No cover

Hamley Slickfork Saloon, 8 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton Eric John Kaiser Wednesday, Jan. 18; 7 p.m.

Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton www.ericjohnkaiser.com

Free/all ages. See story for details

Showdown

Friday, Jan. 20; Saturday, Jan. 21; 8 p.m. No cover Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Dallin Puzey

Friday, Jan. 27; 6-9 p.m. No cover Nookies/Hermiston Brewing Co., 125 N. First St., Hermiston

Jilt

Friday, Jan. 27; Saturday, Jan. 28; 8 p.m. No cover Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Night life

DJ music

Saturdays, 8 p.m. The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Karaoke w/DJ David

Saturdays; 8 p.m. Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

Whiskey Wednesday Game Night

Wednesdays; 3-7 p.m. The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston No cover. Xbox 360, Nintendo Wii, PlayStation 3 and Nintendo 64.

Digital Karaoke

Thursdays and Fridays, 8 p.m. The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

LOL Comedy Jam

Thursdays; 8 p.m. No cover Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission. No cover. Jan. 19: Travis Nelson, Chase Mayers; Jan. 26: Rich William, Tommy Beretz.

Mac's Trivia Night

First Thursday of month, 8 p.m. No cover Mac's Bar & Grill, 1400 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton 21 and older. East Drink. Think. Teams of 2-8 compete in trivia contest with other teams. Live host and prizes.

Zerba Cellars Wine & Chocolate Tasting

Friday, Jan. 20; 4-7 p.m. Alexander's Chocolaterie & Vino Bistro, 363 S. Main St., Pendleton No fee. Stop in and sample the award-winning wines paired with chocolates.

Wine tasting

Fridays, 4-8 p.m. Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.

Open Mic

First/third Friday each month, 8 p.m.-midnight The Packard Tavern, 118 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton www.facebook.com/groups/pendletonopenmic

Karaoke w/DJ David

Fridays; 8 p.m. Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

DJ and dancing

Fridays, 8 p.m. The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Cimmi's Late Night Martini Lounge

Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight Virgil's at Cimmiyottis, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton No cover. Features martini, mixology and music.

Theater & film

Dancing with the Hermiston Stars

Saturday, Jan. 14; 7 p.m. Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St. www.desertartscouncil.com

\$20/adults, \$10/students (additional \$5 at the door). Presented by Desert Arts Council, it features a new lineup of community stars who hit the dance floor with members of the Utah Ballroom Dance Company.

The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told

Friday, Jan. 20; 7 p.m. Power House Theatre, 111 N. Sixth Ave., Walla Walla www.phtww.com

\$32/adults, \$20/students, youths. A swashbuckling musical adventure that weaves audience suggestions into scenes.

The Producers

Jan. 20-21, 27-28, Feb. 3-4, 10-11; 7:30 p.m. Jan. 29, Feb. 5; 2 p.m. 1130 Sumach St., Walla Walla www.ltww.org

\$15. Tickets on sale Jan. 16. Hilarity ensues during the Mel Brooks comedy musical when a producer and his accountant aim to stage a flop to bilk backers out of their money.

Hot tickets

Roots & Boots Concert: (features Sammy Kershaw, Aaron Tippin and Terri Clark) Feb. 10, Wildhorse Resort & Casino. \$49.99-\$125 via www.wildhorseresort.com

Northwest World Reggae Festival: (music, camping, food, vendors) July 28-30, Marcola, 20 miles northeast of Eugene. Super early bird prices (\$100) through Feb. 1 via www.nw-rf.com

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to community@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.

French Troubadour requires no translation

French singer/songwriter Eric John Kaiser is preparing to introduce "Parisian Americana" to Pendleton.

Kaiser's tour is functioning as a release showcase for his fifth album, "Made in Gaspésie." Recorded entirely in French-speaking Quebec during the summer of 2016, the new release sees Kaiser trading his usual Americana for a more blues-based rock album.

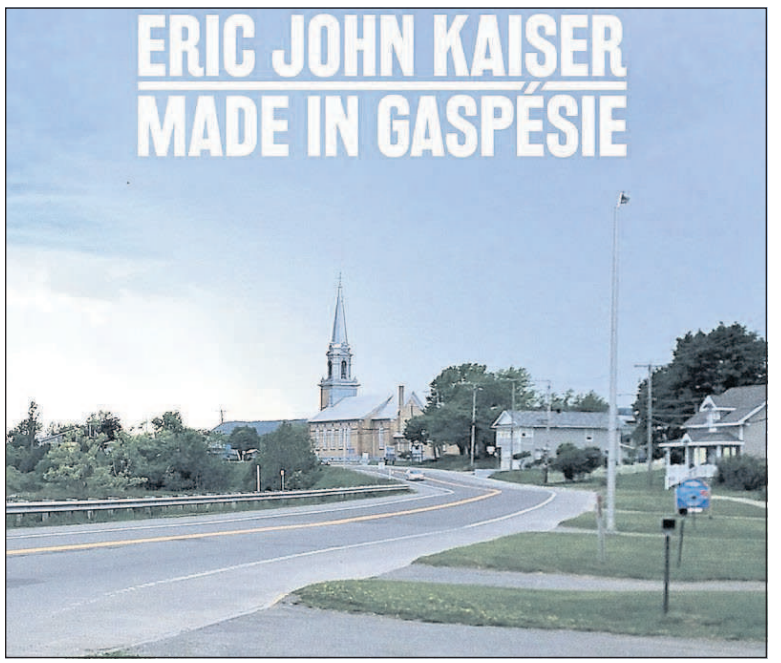
Referred to as the French Troubadour, Kaiser will be performing Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton. There is no cover charge for the all-ages show.

Born in France to an American mother and a French father, Kaiser's musical career has been an attempt to equally present his cultural origins musically. Since moving to Portland in 2006, Kaiser has been a key figure bringing French-language music to the United States. He has performed as the "Artist in Residence" for the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C., conducting workshops for grade-school aged children on the convergence of language and music through Alliance Francaise, and helps in organizing the Paris Rendezvous Concert Series in the Portland area.

Those looking for "Parisian Americana" on "Made in Gaspésie," will not find much of that here. One track of the 10,



JOHNNY VINYL Comment



Eric John Kaiser will make a stop in Pendleton during his CD-release tour for "Made in Gaspésie." The free all-ages event is Jan. 18 at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co.

"Made in Gaspésie"

Who: Eric John Kaiser What: CD release show When: Jan. 18, 7 p.m. Where: Great Pacific, Pendleton Cost: Free/all ages Info: www.ericjohnkaiser.com

Vocally he sounds like a cross between Dire Straits' Mark Knopfler and French-Canadian Daniel Lanois.

The production quality gives an intimate, down-home feel to the proceedings. Several spoken intros add to the vibe.

Understanding French is not a prerequisite to enjoying "Made in Gaspésie," it's very enjoyable musically. Go to the show if you still need further translation.

A retired educator, Johnny Vinyl spends his days with Lucifer, a 7-year-old German shepherd, reading and riding the vibe. His column, Ride the vibe, focuses on entertainment. Contact him via tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com

BRIEFLY



Off-Broadway's only improvised pirate musical, "The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told," will take the stage Jan. 20 at the Power House Theatre in Walla Walla.

Off-Broadway show offers boatloads of fun

WALLA WALLA — A mixture of "Pirates of the Caribbean" meets "Whose Line is it Anyway?" with a splash of Monty Python, Gilbert & Sullivan and Mad Libs offers an evening full of yo ho hos.

"The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told" is a musical adventure that weaves audience suggestions into scenes during off-Broadway's only improvised pirate musical.

It features swordplay and wordplay with a boatload of laughs. The swashbuckling musical is never the same show twice. Set sail for a hilarious evening of entertainment Friday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Power House Theatre, 111 N. Sixth St., Walla Walla. Tickets, which are \$32 for adults and \$20 for students and youths, are available at www.phtww.com or by calling 509-529-6500.

Walla Walla theater stages flop hit

WALLA WALLA — A Mel Brooks musical skewers Broadway traditions and takes no prisoners as it proudly proclaims itself an "equal opportunity offender!"

"The Producers" features a down-on-his-luck Broadway producer and his accountant, who come up with a scheme to stage the biggest flop in history — thereby bilking their backers out of millions of dollars. The show ends up being a smash hit, but the two head to prison for their misdeeds.

Performances are Jan 20-21, 27-28, Feb. 3-4 and 10-11 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 29 and Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. at The Little Theatre of Walla Walla, 1130 E. Sumach St. Tickets are \$15 and go on sale Monday.

For tickets, visit www.ltww.org. For more information, contact boxoffice@ltww.org or 509-529-3683.

Reggae festival offers big tings

MARCOLA — Hey mon, listen up — super early bird passes are available for the 13th annual Northwest World Reggae Festival.

Set for July 28-30 at a Marcola farm (about 20 miles northeast of Eugene), the family-friendly outdoor event offers music, world crafts, food, camping and vendors. Available through Feb. 1, the special price is \$100, which includes camping (\$90 each for six or more). Youths under 14 are free; those 15-17 are half price. Day passes, no-camping and RV rates also are available.

Volunteers receive free weekend passes, crew meals, staff-only showers, discount passes for significant others and discounted T-shirts. A form is available at www.nwrrf.com or email volunteer@nwrrf.com.

For more festival information, contact doug@nwworldreggae.com, 503-622-8948 or search Facebook.

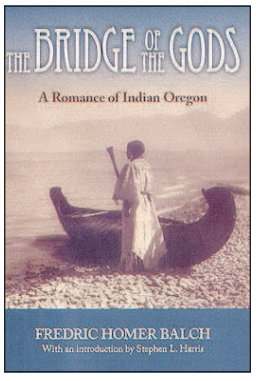
Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston Call 541-564-4539 with questions.

BOOK REVIEW

PNW tribes, legend featured in reprint of century-old novel

A story originally written between 1887 and 1889 and featuring, for the first time, Native Americans as main characters is back in print courtesy of WSU Press.

"The Bridge of the Gods: A Romance of Indian Oregon" was first published in 1890 by Frederic Homer Balch, a pastor from Hood River, and became one of the most successful works of fiction in the Pacific Northwest, remaining in print for more than 100 years. It tells the story of Cecil Grey, a New England minister who has a prophetic dream of a stone bridge and gives up his staid, predictable life to chase the dream. He ends up in the Pacific Northwest, a "guest" of the Cayuse tribe of northeastern Oregon, and sees the legendary natural monument on the way to a meeting of the tribes ruled by Multnomah, the fierce and ruthless chief of the Willamette tribe who controls the Pacific Coast from Mt. Shasta to British Columbia. According to the legend, as long as the bridge stands, the Willamettes remain the foremost tribe in the region.



Multnomah's leadership begins to falter when some tribes vote to wage war on the Shoshone instead of maintaining peace, and squabbles break out. And when Grey accidentally meets Multnomah's only daughter, the couple falls in love with tragic consequences.

"The Bridge of the Gods" is part legend, part love story, but depicts the lives of the Northwest Indian tribes with brutal honesty. While the fictional Cecil Grey provides the narrative of the novel, the central characters are Multnomah and the daughter he has kept isolated from outside influence since the death of his wife, an Asian woman washed ashore in Multnomah's domain after a shipwreck. In the end, it is as much Multnomah's pride as a natural disaster that dooms his people.

Balch grew up in the Columbia River Gorge area and spent years researching the legend of the Bridge of the Gods near Cascade Locks, interviewing tribal members and studying the geology of the site, convinced the legend was based on historical fact.

The reprint edition includes a new introduction by Balch biographer Stephen L. Harris, who felt the story deserved attention from a new generation.

"The Bridge of the Gods: A Romance of Indian Oregon," by Frederic Homer Balch. © 2016, Washington State University Press.

Renee Struthers is the records editor and book reviewer for the East Oregonian. Contact her at rstruthers@eastoregonian.com