

BRIEFLY

Art show features paintings on Plexiglas

BAKER CITY — The artwork of Brian Sostrom remains on display at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center through Saturday, May 27.

The Carnation, Washington, man's exhibit features acrylic paintings on Plexiglas titled "Western Shadows." In addition, the artwork of Baker Middle School students is featured in the student gallery.

Sostrom said his atmospheric images are not intended to communicate a story but rather create an intriguing visual poem. The slick surface of the plastic sheeting makes an excellent surface for subtle brushwork and mark making. The flip side of the Plexiglas is covered with layers of transparent textures that harmonize and compliment the painted image. Glass beads and iridescent paint are often incorporated into his work and alter the appearance of the surface as the lighting and angle of view shift.

The art center is open Monday through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's located at 2020 Auburn Ave., Baker City. There is no admission charge.

For more information about entering, visit www.crossroads-arts.org or call 541-523-5369.

Free festival features more than 100 acts

COTTAGE GROVE — A free, all-ages entertainment festival highlights more than 100 regional acts.

The People's Pick Local Music Showcase is June 30 through July 1 at Bohemia Park & Amphitheater. The 14-acre pet-friendly heritage park, which features a play structure and water feature, is in Cottage Grove.

The live performances include various types of singers, bands, DJs, live painters, dancers, spinners, and performance acts. Also, food and other vendors will be selling goods.

Camping passes for tent sites can be reserved for \$10 to \$22. Also, recreational vehicle hook-up spots range from \$40 to \$60.

For more information, visit <http://peoplespick.cgmipresents.org>.

Concert includes Hermiston violinist

LA GRANDE — The Showstoppers concert of the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra includes tunes from movies and the world of rock.

The performance also features the winners of the concerto-aria competition, including Sidney Tovey, a junior from Hermiston High School. A violin player, she will present "Concerto No. 3 for Violin and Orchestra."

The concert is Wednesday, May 31 at 7:30 p.m. at in McKenzie Theater on the Eastern Oregon University campus in La Grande. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$2 for college students, \$1 for grades 8-12 and free for seventh graders and younger.

For more information, contact grsymphony2@gmail.com or visit www.granderondesymphony.org.

Trump visit draws Keith to Saudi Arabia

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — American country singer Toby Keith, known for songs such as "Whiskey Girl" and "Beer For My Horses," is scheduled to perform in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, this weekend in an event that coincides with President Donald Trump's first overseas visit.

Saudi entertainment website Lammt, which is advertising the event, says Saturday's free concert is open to men only. It will also feature an Arabian lute player.

Saudi Arabia adheres to an ultraconservative interpretation of Islamic law. Alcohol is banned and unrelated men and women are segregated in public.

The kingdom has recently loosened the reins on entertainment, including allowing musical concerts that had been banned for the past two decades.

Saudi Arabia hopes to dazzle Trump with a lineup of summits and events this weekend.

Seattle transplant brings evolving musical styles to Eastern Oregon

Eastern Oregon seems to be bringing in a steady stream of artists and musicians these days. The latest transplant to the area is Lincoln Barr, the singer-songwriter force behind the Seattle-based band Red Jacket Mine. Although his residency is temporary — his relocation was driven by his wife's two year clinical rotation at Good Shepherd Hospital — Barr looks forward to planting some roots in the region and actively participating in its artistic community.

Born and raised in Mississippi and inspired by Nirvana to pick up a guitar, Lincoln cut his teeth in music by performing in praise groups at his Pentecostal Church. Upon turning 18, Barr started to seriously pursue the craft of songwriting. Inspired by lo-fi heroes Elliott Smith and Guided By Voices, Barr bought a 4-track tape recorder in the early 2000s. By the summer of 2003

Barr was living in Seattle and had amassed enough material worthy of building a band around.

"I was really self-conscious of coming off as a 'singer-songwriter' at the time," says Barr. "It reminded me of that Morrissey quote, 'I thought if you had an acoustic guitar it meant you were a protest singer.'"

So Barr started Red Jacket Mine as a vehicle to perform his songs. Although they were a band in the sense that arrangements and administrative duties were collectively handled, Barr

remained the driving vision of the group. Over the course of three albums and numerous singles and EPs, Red Jacket Mine's output evolved from

jangly power pop to a sardonic and sophisticated pop style reminiscent of Elvis Costello and Steely Dan. They also worked with a lineup of high profile veteran producers from the Pacific Northwest including Jack Endino, Ken Stringfellow (of The Posies and Big Star) and Johnny Sangster.

Lincoln's recently released debut solo album "Trembling Frames" thrusts his stylistic trajectory ever forward toward jazz standards. Featuring a notable lineup of musicians that includes John Convertino (drummer/percussionist of

Tuscon's Calexico), Dan Walker (keyboardist of Red Jacket Mine), New York-based reed player Levon Henry, and Seattle jazz vibraphonist Susan Pascal, Trembling Frames "deconstructs standards in order to see what makes them tick," as Barr puts it. The songs on the record evoke torch ballads that Julie London or Blossom Dearie might sing. It also explores lyrical territory more personal than Barr has mapped before, delving into themes of depression and self-doubt, though a casual listener wouldn't make that apparent as the lush instrumentation and harmonies throughout the record capture the ears first.

Barr is now turning his attention towards film scoring. Although he has contributed previously recorded material to soundtracks before, "The Past Is Never Dead," by St. Louis documentarian Steve

Turner is the first film that he has actively composed pieces for. Reassembling many of the same players from Trembling Frames, Barr and company improvised off of a collection of melodic themes, which results in a set of moody and undulating instrumental pieces that align with the narrative of the film.

"The Past Is Never Dead" follows the story David Lee Robinson, who has been imprisoned for murder in Missouri for 17 years. The circumstances surrounding his conviction are rather dubious: There was never any physical evidence only a testimony by a witness who later recanted under 13 counts of perjury. Additionally, an inmate within the Missouri prison system separately confessed to Robinson's crime though that inmate is now deceased. Robinson is now represented by Brian Cave Law Firm and his case is in front of the Missouri Supreme Court. The legal saga of Robinson, a black man from the segregated community of Sikeston, highlights the racial disparities of the justice system of which the public is continually

more exposed to with each passing news cycle.

Despite the experimental leanings of his soundtrack work, Barr's solo performances stick to tried and true troubadour territory, standing in defiance of his earlier apprehension about being a "singer-songwriter." His sets typically revolve around songs from Trembling Frames, select Red Jacket Mine numbers and a few choice covers. It will be interesting to see how a year or two of living in Eastern Oregon will influence his work.

Barr performs at Echo Ridge Cellars on Saturday, May 27.

James Dean Kindle is the East Oregonian's entertainment columnist, the executive director of the Oregon East Symphony and a Pendleton musician. Contact him at jamesdeankindle@gmail.com.



Contributed photo

Lincoln Barr has played in Seattle-based bands and recently moved to Eastern Oregon. He will play at Echo Cellars on May 27.

Go see it

Lincoln Barr will play at Echo Ridge Cellars on Saturday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

Festivals

Downtown Comes Alive

•Saturday, May 20; 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

•Downtown Pendleton www.facebook.com/events/1625907804103122

Free. Features live music, period actors from College Community Theatre, sidewalk sales, refreshments and a beer garden.

Bark for Life

•Saturday, May 20; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

•Riverfront Park, Orchard Extension Loop, Hermiston www.facebook.com/events/1844156179206870

\$20 with a dog, \$10 no dog. A cancer survivors meal is free at noon. A fun run/walk at 1 p.m. is \$15 (free for kids) offers prizes. Dog contests for biggest, smallest, hairiest, human look-a-like. Raises money for the American Cancer Society.

Fiesta de Salud of Hermiston

•Sunday, May 21; noon-4 p.m.

•Mirasol Family Health Center, 589 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston www.yfwc.com

Free. Food, fun and health information. Features 15-20 booths and activities for all ages. Live entertainment includes a mariachi band.

Spray Rodeo & Eastern Oregon Half Marathon

•May 26-28

•Spray www.sprayrodeo.com

\$10 adults, \$5 kids 6-12, free 5-and-under. Rodeo action at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (slack on Friday). Event also features a Buckaroo Breakfast, parade (Saturday, 11 a.m.) and Cowboy Church (Sunday, 9 a.m.). Half marathon is Saturday at 8 a.m. (\$30 for individuals or \$50 relay teams; shirts \$5).

Heart of the Country Rodeo

•Saturday, May 27; 12:30 p.m.

•Quantum 9 Arena, Helix www.helixrodeo.org

\$10 adults, \$5 ages 5-12, free 4-and-under. Features bull riding, saddle bronc, stock saddle bronc riding, calf roping, barrel racing (ages 12-and-under), stick horse racing (ages 6-and-under) and mutton bustin' (ages 4-8). Bid on rough stock

riders during Calcutta Friday, May 26 at 7 p.m. at the Helix Pub. Music until 10 p.m. after the rodeo by the Cory Peterson Band.

Art & Museums

"Western Shadows"

•Monday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

•Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn St., Baker City

www.crossroads-arts.org

Free. Features acrylic paintings on Plexiglas by Brian Sostrom of Carnation, Washington. Runs through May 27.

"Spirit of Place"

•Monday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

•Pendleton Art + Frame, 36 S.W. Court Ave.

www.pendletonartandframe.com

Free. Landscape oil paintings of the changing seasons and colored pen and ink images by Paulette Carter are on display through June 30.

Open Regional Exhibit

•Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, noon-4 p.m.

•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.

www.pendletonarts.org

Free. View work of 100+ artists from across the region, who will be vying for more than \$1,200 in prize money. Runs through June 23.

Music

The Mix

•Saturday, May 20; 8 p.m.

No cover

•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

J.J. Hill & Chong Slippy

•Saturday, May 20; 9 p.m.

•Hamley Steakhouse & Saloon, 8 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton

No cover. Happy hour from 10 p.m. to close.

Open Mic at GP

•Thursday, May 25; 7-9 p.m.

•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton

No cover. All ages are welcome during the last Thursday of each month. Bring your instrument, voice, family and friends.

Live Music Thursday

•Thursday, May 25; 7-9 p.m.

WHAT TO DO

•40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton

No cover during Live Music Thursday.

TripleShot

•Friday, May 26; Saturday, May 27; Monday, May 28; 8 p.m. No cover

•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

•Sunday, May 28; 10:30 a.m.

•Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave.

www.facebook.com/ugandankidschoir

Free. Features 10-child choir presenting traditional rhythmic dances and songs of Africa.

•"Showstoppers"

•Wednesday, May 31; 7:30 p.m.

•McKenzie Theater, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande

www.granderondesymphony.org

\$12 adults, \$8 seniors, \$2 college students, \$1 grades 8-12. Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra performs tunes from movies and the world of rock. Also features winners of the concerto-aria competition, including Sidney Tovey, a junior violin player from Hermiston High School.

•The Rocker Fellas

•Saturday, June 3; 6-9 p.m.

•Hamley Steakhouse & Saloon, 8 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton

No cover. Favorite songs from the '60s.

•Liberty Quartet

•Friday, June 9; 7 p.m.

•Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave.

www.facebook.com/ugandankidschoir

Free, offering taken. The Boise-based Southern gospel quartet performs.

•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

•Digital Martini

•Thursdays and Fridays, 8 p.m.

•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

LOL Comedy Jam

•Thursdays; 8 p.m.

•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

No cover. May 25: Kaz Gable

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.

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 Cimmiyotti's, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton

No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.

Theater & film

•"The Odd Couple" (male version)

•Saturday, May 20; 7:30 p.m.

•BMCC, Bob Clapp Theatre, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton

\$15 adults, \$10 students & children. Ages 3-and-under not admitted. College Community Theatre presents Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" with JJ Hill as Oscar Madison and Riley Mulvihill at Felix Ungar in the male version.

•"The Odd Couple" (female version)

•Saturday, May 20; Sunday, May 21; 2 p.m.

•BMCC, Bob Clapp Theatre, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton