

PILOT ROCK

Community Days hypes town for eclipse

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

Pilot Rock's annual Community Days were infected by eclipse fever Saturday.

Residents gripped pairs of special eclipse glasses as they wandered around City Park on Saturday, browsing through jewelry and slurping snow cones sold at booths.

The eclipse-viewing glasses were in short supply in parts of Umatilla County, but Mayor Virginia Carnes was handing them out for free to the approximately 100 people who showed up Saturday morning for a presentation about Monday's eclipse by Charli Sakari, a post-doctoral research associate for the department of astronomy at University of Washington.

After the presentation Sakari was peppered with questions about safety and what to expect during the event, which won't happen again in Oregon until 2108.

"The eclipse will start in the water and end in the water but the only land it will touch will be in the United States, and for that reason it is being called Eclipse Across America or the Great American Eclipse," she said.

A block away from the park, a trickle of beat-up Volkswagen vans and cars laden with camping gear, most sporting out-of-state license plates, moved through town, heading south on Highway 395 in the direction of the eclipse's path of totality.

Many of Pilot Rock's residents decided that near-totality would be good enough.

"We're going to actually do it in the back yard," Joy Archuleta said. "We thought about heading down but we were worried about traffic."

She and her husband James are going to get their 9-year-old grandson from Yakima, however, so he can see a more impressive version of the eclipse than Washington will get.

Amanda and Ernie Dumond were also out enjoying Community Days at the park and said they planned to stay in town Monday.

"Our daughter lives in Mount Vernon and works in John Day," Amanda said. "She said if we came down we would have to bring our own gas and our own food because there's not going to be enough in town."

The Dumonds said they were having a good time at Community Days, however.



Bowen Bronson, 2, competes in a stick horse race during Pilot Rock Community Day on Saturday morning with the help of his big brother, Kash.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



Willy, a dachshund owned by Annie Tester, cruises to first in his preliminary heat of the Pilot Rock Community Day Wiener Dog Race on Saturday afternoon at City Park. Willy got second place in the final, losing to Luna June, owned by Jaxynn Thurmond.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

The annual event includes class reunions for Pilot Rock alumni, events at the park, food and other vendors, live music in the evenings and a parade Saturday night.

Katie Weinke and Maralyn Stelk were at the park on Saturday too, splitting a large container of curly fries. Weinke said she approved of the decision to move Community Days from downtown to the park this year, as it provided more shade and a place for the children to run around.

"It's a good atmosphere everyone is enjoying," she said.

During the day on Saturday children gathered at City Park were kept busy with a bounce house, skip and slide and activities like the rubber duck race down the creek.

A hot, dry summer had depleted the creek too much for the ducks to make it down the creek bed on their own, but the Pilot Rock Fire District saved the day by bringing in a water truck and

using a fire hose to help the ducks along.

Saturday also included a wiener dog race, won by Luna June.

"Last year she won also, so she may know what to do," her owner Jaxynn Thurmond said.

While some adults stuck around for a beer garden and live entertainment Saturday night, the younger ones' day ended with a parade downtown. Pilot Rock residents swapped stories of where they planned to be Monday during the eclipse while they waited for the parade to begin, and someone passed around a photo on their phone of a traffic jam in Madras. Traffic through Pilot Rock halted briefly as the short parade looped through a small section of Highway 395, before the 20 vehicles that had gathered behind the barrier were allowed to continue their journey south.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4536.

Judge considers sensitive records in Morrow Co. sex crimes case

East Oregonian

HEPPNER — The sex crimes case of Corey Scott Baker of Ione goes to court Thursday over sensitive records.

Baker's attorney, Nick Patterson, filed motions with the Morrow County Circuit Court requesting a judge review in chambers certain records related to Baker and others, including the alleged victim, according to court records. The defense seeks hand-written notes and other documents from the Oregon Department of Human Services, Boardman, and the Mount Emily Safe Center, La Grande, a nonprofit that conducts forensic interviews of abuse victims.

Circuit Judge Eva Temple in mid-July signed orders to produce the records. Temple can cancel Thursday's hearing, however, if she completes the review before then.

Baker, 40, had pleaded not guilty to charges of first-degree rape and sexual

abuse of a girl younger than 14.

Maynor Alberto Granados, 38, of Irrigon, has a pre-trial hearing in his sex crimes case the same day. Granados, who also uses the last name Gionados, faces two counts of second-degree rape and nine of first-degree sexual abuse. The state alleged he committed the crimes this year against a girl younger than 14.

And Darren Ned Humbert, 58, of Milton-Freewater, also has a hearing Thursday in Morrow County Circuit Court. The state has accused Humbert of taking a woman on Aug. 4 in Morrow County from one place to another against her consent and intentionally crashing the vehicles they were in to harm her, according to court records. He has pleaded not guilty to first-degree kidnapping, second-degree assault, third-degree assault, reckless driving and recklessly endangering another person.

BRIEFLY

Morrow Co. says farewell to Sorte

HEPPNER — A farewell reception is planned for Jerry Sorte, Morrow County administrative officer.

Hosted by the county, the free event is Wednesday from 11 a.m. to noon in the Bartholomew Building, 110 N. Court St., Heppner. The public is invited to stop by and wish Sorte well.

Sorte was hired as the county's first full-time administrative officer in 2015. He is leaving to take a job as community and economic development director with the city of Sweet Home.

WW.Friends fire up the barbie

PENDLETON — All area widows and widowers are invited to a potluck barbecue.

The group meets each month to share friendship and positive experiences. It's not designed as a grief support group.

The barbecue event is Wednesday, Aug. 30 at 6 p.m. at 511 N.W. Eighth St., Pendleton. For more

information, call 541-276-4708 or 541-969-2450.

Diamond tribute features 'Hot August Night'

PORTLAND — A live multimedia musical tribute to Neil Diamond is being presented in Portland.

Tony Starlight presents a program featuring the musician's "Hot August Night" album, which was recorded at the Greek Theater in 1972. The audience can also expect other Neil Diamond classics, including "America," "Forever In Blue Jeans" and "Love On The Rocks."

The performance is Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Tony Starlight Showroom, 1125 S.E. Madison St., Portland. The doors open at 6 p.m. for dinner or 7 p.m. for the show only.

Tickets, which include a three-course dinner and the show, cost \$75 for a premier assigned seat or \$65 for a standard assigned seat. Show only tickets are \$30 and are general admission. Tickets are available at www.tonystarlight.com. For more information, call 503-517-8584.



Wheatstock rocks Helix

ABOVE: Too Slim & the Taildraggers perform Saturday at the Wheatstock Music Festival in Helix. RIGHT: Tim "Too Slim" Langdon of Too Slim and the Taildraggers lets loose with his brand of blues rock. For more photos, visit us online at www.eastoregonian.com

Staff photos by Kathy Aney



COMING EVENTS

- TUESDAY, AUGUST 22 MEGA SPORTS CAMP: CONQUER THE DAY**, 8-11:30 a.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Kids in grades 1-6 can choose baseball, basketball, soccer or cheerleading and learn new skills and fundamentals in a positive and encouraging environment. Between sports session, coaches lead songs and inspiring sports and Bible stories. (Ricky and Sylvia 541-276-3369)
- PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**, 10:30-11 a.m., Stanfield Public Library, 180 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. (541-449-1254)
- BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)
- PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101)
- HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE**, 12 p.m., Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra

- 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to parish hall by donation. (541-567-3582)
- ATHENA TUESDAY MARKET**, 4-7 p.m., Dugger Park, Main Street, Athena. Local vendors featuring food, crafts and more. Vendor spaces are free. (April McKenna or Katie Zmuda 541-310-9557)
- CRAFTERNOONS**, 4:15 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Drop in for a group or individual craft project. All ages. (541-966-0380)
- KARATE OPEN GYM**, 5-6 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center gym, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Lars Hansen will lead this all-ages class. Wear comfortable clothes. No experience necessary. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)
- THE ARC ACTIVITY NIGHT**, 5:30-6:30 p.m., The ARC Umatilla County, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Games, crafts and refreshments. (541-567-7615)
- PENDLETON EAGLES TACOS AND BINGO**, 6 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Regular packet \$10, special packet \$5. Proceeds donated to local charities. Public welcome. (541-278-2828)
- INSIDE OUTSIDE THE LINES ADULT COLORING**, 6-7:30 p.m., Irrigon Public Library, 490 N.E. Main St., Irrigon. Materials provided. Bring snacks to share. (541-

- 922-0138)
- PENDLETON KNITTING GROUP**, 6 p.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. (541-966-0380)
- DIY @ THE LIBRARY**, 6-8 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. August: Bullet Journal: Act Two, Decisions. For adults only. Registration required, limited to 10. (541-966-0380)

TWO HOURS every morning paid off my credit card debt.



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