

FILM



Courtesy of Take Action Films
A free screening of “Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home” is Wednesday, April 18 at Iron Gate Theater in Baker City.

Documentary filmmaker trashes garbage

BAKER CITY — People can gain an eye-opening experience regarding the amount of garbage they produce and ways to reduce the environmental impact during a documentary viewing.

In “Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home,” writer/director Andrew Nisker takes an average family and asks them to keep every scrap of garbage that they create for three months. He then takes them on a journey to find out where it all goes and what it’s doing to the world.

The free viewing is Wednesday, April 18 at 6 p.m. at Iron Gate Theater, 2101 Main St., Baker City (Basche-Sage Mall). The doors open at 5:30 p.m. Popcorn and water will be available for purchase — people are encouraged to bring their own containers to re-use. Also, door prizes will be given away.

Released in 2007, Nisker said “Garbage” helped him break out as a filmmaker. The response by audiences, he said, showed that environmental documentaries are something people are interested in.

“I make films to inspire people to take action and revolutionize the way we treat the environment and ourselves,” Nisker said.

Other projects he’s worked on address such topics as all-natural products, the use of Agent Orange, chewing gum and the impact of pesticides and water use at golf courses. For more about his work, visit www.andrewnisker.com

The screening of “Garbage” is hosted by the Baker City Trash Talk. During the event, participants can learn about opportunities for positive change and discuss additional solutions. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/BCTrashTalk or contact tnthorse@eoni.com.

MUSIC

Music festival offers peak performances

BEND — A family-friendly summer music festival features Greensky Bluegrass, Nahko and Medicine for the People, North Mississippi Allstars, The New Mastersounds Poor Man’s Whiskey, Brothers Comatose and more.

In addition to four performance stages, the 4 Peaks Music Festival offers a variety of vendors and fun for the whole family. The festival’s Kidlandia provides arts and crafts, games, demonstrations and a small stage featuring children’s performers. People can’t bring alcohol to the event, but wine, beer and cocktails will be available for purchase.

The event is June 21-24 at Stevenson Ranch, 21085 Knott Road, Bend. The regular ticket is \$200, which includes camping — save \$15 for an early bird pass through Sunday, April 22. Kids 10 and under are free and young adults are \$20. Also, RV passes and luxury yurt packages are available. And volunteers who commit to 12-14 hours of work can receive a free festival pass and camping.

For more information, including volunteer opportunities, a full lineup and a link to buy tickets, visit www.4peaksmusic.com.

Guitar makers hit hard by new rosewood regulations

By MICHAEL CASEY
Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. — An international crackdown on illegal logging in tropical forests has ensnared the makers of some guitars and other musical instruments, whose top-end products require small amounts of rosewood, a material prized for its rich, multicolored grain and resonant sound.

Since new trade rules took effect in 2017, guitar makers have complained about long delays in getting permits to import rosewood and export finished instruments that contain it. Warehouses have filled with unsold instruments, and a bagpipe maker in New Hampshire went so far as to ask the governor to intervene after a permit application was lost.

“I’m so annoyed. I’m so distraught by this,” said Chris Martin, chairman and CEO of C.F. Martin and Co., which uses rosewood in 200 models of acoustic guitar, some played by Eric Clapton, Ed Sheeran, Sting and other stars. The company’s logistics staff estimates it spends 40 percent of its time dealing with the new regulations.

Fearful that Africa and Asia were losing rosewood forests, governments adopted the rules to stem the flow of smuggled rosewood to China’s luxury furniture manufacturers. But the restrictions have also hurt companies that use relatively tiny amounts of the wood in guitars, clarinets and oboes.

Months after the regulations were adopted, acoustic guitar exports from the U.S. fell by about 28 percent, and electric guitar exports declined 23 percent, according to the Music Trades magazine, an industry publication. Music retailers reported losing \$60 million.

At Martin’s Pennsylvania-based company, many transactions are



AP Photo/Jacqueline Larma

In this March 23 photo, workers buff guitars at C. F. Martin and Co., in Nazareth, Pa. Fearful that parts of Africa and Asia were losing their rosewood forests to illegal loggers, governments in 2016 banded together to slap international trade regulations on hundreds of species of the trees. Among the hardest hit has been the music industry, many who depend on rosewood for parts of their guitars, clarinets and oboes.



AP Photo/Jacqueline Larma

In this March 23 photo, a worker handles sheets of rosewood at C. F. Martin and Co., in Nazareth, Pa. Guitar makers and other instrument makers are being hit hard by regulations aimed at preventing the world’s rosewood species from disappearing.

stalled: “We have orders for the guitars. We have customers. The customers have the money to pay for them, and we can’t ship them because the paperwork is stuck somewhere,” he said.

The guitar industry’s frustration is focused on the United Nation’s Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, which is responsible for combating wildlife smuggling. The agency has tangled in the past with instrument makers, mostly over restrictions on ivory, tortoiseshell and whale bone.

Agency officials previously placed trade limits on only a few rosewood species, such as Brazilian rosewood, which is especially precious. But the 2016 trade rules covered up to 300 species of the rosewood family known as *Dalbergia*. The new regulations also required permits for products made from the wood, including guitars, violins, bagpipes and xylophones. Many companies that had never

needed permits had only three months to comply.

“It was a steep learning curve for these companies,” said Timothy Van Norman, chief of the permit-granting branch of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which saw its permit applications double to 40,000 in 2017 mostly from rosewood. Bigger guitar companies with more sophisticated distribution systems were probably quicker to adapt than smaller companies or individuals making a limited number of instruments. “For them, it probably came out of the blue.”

Taylor Guitars, based in El Cajon, California, reported losing tens of thousands of dollars from months-long delays and confusion surrounding its shipments to some 30 countries in the world.

“Each country was suddenly responsible for interpreting what this new rule meant,” said Scott Paul, Taylor’s director of natural resource sustainability.

Governments in Africa and Latin

America proposed the regulations to combat increased rosewood smuggling over the past decade that they said had endangered the species, which is also known for its fragrance, a sweet floral aroma that gives the wood its name.

Much of the smuggling was orchestrated by criminal gangs that took advantage of lax rules and widespread corruption to strip away forest in Southeast Asia, Central America and West Africa. The illegal logging also sparked regional conflicts, contributed to desertification and destroyed a key food source for bees, butterflies and other insects.

The United Nations describes the rosewood trade as the world’s costliest wildlife crime, with seizures totaling more than almost all other species combined. Between 2005 and 2015, 10,000 metric tons of protected rosewood was seized.

WHAT TO DO

Festivals

Cowboy Gathering & Music Festival

•April 13-15
•Benton-Franklin County Fairgrounds, 1500 S. Oak St., Kennewick
www.columbiarivercowboy-gathering.com
\$5-\$30. Performers include Dion Pride, Joni & Olivia Harms, Georgette Jones, Smoke Wade and James Carothers Duo. Also features Cowboy Idol Contest, Rascal Rodeo, Western dance lessons, cowboy poetry, food vendors, raffle drawings and a cowboy church service.

Adams Day

•Saturday, April 14
•Adams
www.cityofadamsoregon.com
Free admission. A celebration the opening of the Triangle Little League season. Activities include a fireman’s breakfast, parade, pie sale, vendors and baseball games. (541-566-3410).

Base of the Blues Bash

•Saturday, April 14; 5 p.m.
•Milton-Freewater Community Building, 109 N.E. Fifth Ave.
www.baseofthebluesbash.com
\$50. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed by a live auction at 7 p.m. and dancing at 8 p.m. with the Gary Winston Band. Also features local wineries and breweries.

BMCC Arts & Culture Festival

•April 16-19
•Pendleton and Hermiston campuses
www.bluecc.edu/community/diversity-at-bmcc/arts-and-culture
Free. Features guest speakers, presentations and community barbecues.

Spring Fever Pub Crawl

•Saturday, April 28; 4-10 p.m.
•Pendleton
\$15/early sales. Sponsored

Jimmy Smith powers on after Gourds

PENDLETON — Jimmy Smith, former frontman for The Gourds, and bluesman Pat McKay have teamed up as Smith/McKay All Day.

The power duo presents drum stomping, guitar banging and vocalizing old Gourds, Hard Pans and Slo-Red faves, as well as anything else Smitty decides to bring to the table. Catch the two-man band that offers the sound of a four-piece Wednesday, April 25 from 8-10 p.m. at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton. There is no cover charge for the all-ages show.

Smith is best known for his two decades of performing, writing songs and playing bass with The Gourds. After the Austin, Texas, alt-country group disbanded in 2013, Smith has continued playing music as The Hard Pans, the Jimmy Smith System and most recently as a power duo with McKay.

After gigging with The Gourds for the better part of two decades in Missoula, Smith described Montana as sort of second home. With Austin in his rearview mirror, Smith packed up his family nearly two years ago and moved to the Big Sky Country. For more about his music, visit www.jimmysmithatx.com.

For questions about the show at Great Pacific, call 541-276-1350.



Contributed photo

Jimmy Smith, former frontman for The Gourds, and bluesman Pat McKay have teamed up as Smith/McKay All Day. They are performing a free all-ages show Wednesday, April 25 at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., Pendleton.

by the Pendleton Downtown Association to benefit the Oregon East Symphony.

Art, Museums & Authors

Louise Bourgeois

•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. Exhibit features works of Louise Bourgeois (1911-2010), a French-American artist whose work explores themes of childhood, domesticity, family, gender roles and sexuality. On loan from the collection of Jor-

MOVIE REVIEW

Dwayne Johnson survives the rubble that is ‘Rampage’



Warner Bros. via AP

This image released by Warner Bros. shows Dwayne Johnson in a scene from “Rampage.”

Guerrilla and the Gorilla”?) we might crave. “Rampage” is professional-looking, thanks to the well-integrated effects artistry of Weta Digital. We have become spoiled, perhaps, by affecting computer-generated primates thanks to the “Planet of the Apes” franchise. But George (played with motion capture by Jason Liles)

still holds his own in the monkey-movie kingdom.

And Johnson, so recently in the jungle for “Jumanji,” remains a truly indefatigable movie star capable of carrying even the most half-baked of premises with colossal charisma. “Rampage” would surely sink a less sturdy action star, yet even here the

“Rampage”
★ ★ ★ ★
PG-13, 107 minutes

wayward mishmash of monster-movie tropes only seem to ping off him like bullets deflected by Superman.

As a product that reunites the director and star of “San Andreas” and “Journey 2: The Mysterious Island,” “Rampage” is similarly forgettable popcorn fare that, in almost every scene feels like a knockoff of something else. And it should be funny. Movies about giant mutant animals that flock to the Windy City really ought to be funny. — *Associated Press*