

HEALING: Group came together to help community

Continued from 1A

and upset and disappointed and we didn’t like the fact that we couldn’t bring our kids out into the community anymore,” Thompson said. “So this group started out with a fighter mentality — we wanted to help clean up the community and make everybody feel safe.”

The trio decided to take a small step toward sanity and safety by organizing a clean-up event called Walk the Rez. A flyer advertising the event featured a clenched red fist and the slogan “Taking back our REZ.”

The flyer read, “Due to the recent tragic events on our reservation, emotions are high. We want answers and we want action. Enough is enough. We are taking back our home. This is a start.”

The trio is a close-knit one. Thompson, 29, is a professional mixed martial arts fighter turned power-lifter. She holds three state powerlifting records. The mother of three also works as a fitness instructor at the RAC and is a full-time business student at Blue Mountain Community College. She hopes to go into law enforcement.

Halfmoon Thompson, 35, works as operations manager at the tribal radio station, KCUW 104.3. She spends nine hours each week on her own time learning the Ichishkiin language in a class led by Warm Springs elder Don Sohappay in a quest to keep the language from dying.

Wallace, a yoga instructor, is mother to six children. While the other two women are CTUIR members, Wallace is enrolled in the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. Enough Iz Enough sponsored a variety of events in the two years since the

shooting.

“Over the course of the two years that we’ve been doing events, our focus has kind of changed,” Thompson said. “We’ve shifted gears. Rather than feeling like it’s a fight, like it’s anger, now we’re trying to join the communities.”

The most recent event was last weekend’s free youth basketball camp at the Roundup Athletic Club, open to all youth. Two coaches from Seattle’s Real Native Fitness, Dietreich Rios and Matt Hawk, ran 30 young players from around the area through skill building exercises and drills.

Other events included the No More Stolen Sisters March, to showcase the plight of missing and murdered indigenous women, a phenomenon the three say has affected the Umatilla Reservation.

In January, the group sponsored an anti-bullying

event for youth that included a community panel, team building, a jiu-jitsu seminar and a yoga flow. Enough Iz Enough also raised money to bring Ashley Calling-bull to speak to Nixyaawii graduates in June. Calling-bull, Mrs. Universe in 2015 and a motivational speaker and spokesperson for the Nike N7 organization, hails from Alberta’s Enoch Cree Nation.

Several times during winter months, Thompson and Wallace gathered blankets, coats and hand warmers and walked the Pendleton Parkway, distributing them to homeless people.

Looking ahead, the women say the future is fluid. A podcast is in the works to carry on the conversation and provide a forum for community issues, said Halfmoon Thompson.

“The door is open,” she said. “We’re looking for ideas.”



EO file photo

Audience members fuel up on whiskey and beer during the second annual Pendleton Whisky Music Fest in 2017.

WHISKY: More vendors will set up inside venue

Continued from 1A

Unlike the Round-Up, where attendees trickle out of the arena as the rodeo wears on, the Whisky Fest audience all leave at once when the concert ends.

Roberts said Pendleton simply doesn’t have the infrastructure to contain that many people leaving at once, and even with extra preparation and accommodations, traffic may be at a standstill for a while.

Roberts is encouraging concert-goers to use the free shuttles, especially considering that some impatient drivers will likely try a risky maneuver or ignore police direction while trying to navigate traffic.

Food and drink

To alleviate crowding around the food vending area, McAnally wrote that Whisky Fest is expanding its lineup of vendors and spreading them out into two separate food courts.

The two courts will be housed under canopies behind the south grandstands and the west grandstands.

Whisky Fest also wants to avoid the long lines at the alcohol booths from the inaugural event and is continuing to encourage buying drink tickets, the only way to buy alcoholic drinks at the event, before the concert starts.

A pre-event tent will sell drink tickets at Roy Raley Park starting at 1 p.m.

All food, drink tickets, and merchandise must be bought with cash. ATMs will be located across the Round-Up Grounds.

Miscellaneous

This year, Whisky Fest organizers are installing sod around the arena’s dirt track for the concert’s new premium arena tickets.

According to McAnally, 50 tickets are still available for the \$175 seats, which provide a ground-level view of the stage, a special private entrance near Dairy Queen, and early access to the stadium.

Once the concert is over, concert organizers plan to donate the sod to the Pendleton School District to improve its athletic fields.

Whisky Fest will also bring back its Friday night kick-off party, which will be expanded this year.

The free event on Main Street will feature food vendors opening at 4 p.m. and alcohol stands opening at 6 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by Precious Byrd, a rock band, and DJ Sovren-T.

Shuttles from the campsites to Main Street and back will run every half-hour from 6 p.m. to midnight.

PARDONED: Sentenced under anti-terrorism ruling

Continued from 1A

a change in philosophy that we welcome and respect,” said Jerome Rosa, executive director of the Oregon Cattle-men’s Association.

However, others worry the pardons will embolden extremists who want to end or drastically reduce the federal government’s control over vast swaths of the West.

“They now think they have a friend in the White House who does not value public lands,” said Aaron Weiss, media director for the Center for Western Priorities, a nonprofit that advocates protecting public land.

Originally, federal prosecutors charged the Hammonds in 2010 with burning more than 45,000 acres of federal land near their ranch in Diamond, Oregon, in blazes dating back to the 1980s.

Dwight and Steven Hammond were ultimately convicted of setting a fire in 2001 that consumed 139 acres of federal property, while the

younger rancher was also found guilty of lighting a “back burn” that spread onto an acre of public land in 2006.

A federal judge originally imposed prison terms of three months for Dwight Hammond and a year for Steven Hammond after finding the five-year mandatory terms required under federal law “really would shock the conscience.”

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned that decision and the ranchers were required to serve the full five years behind bars.

Their return to prison in early 2016 sparked protests that led to the armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns.

While many of the Hammonds’ supporters didn’t approve of the takeover, they saw the Obama administration’s pursuit of longer prison sentences as vindictive. That sentiment was echoed in Trump’s pardon announcement, which called the appeal “overzealous.”

“I think the president recognized they’re good and decent men and got a raw deal on the sentencing,” said Nathan Jackson, a rancher and president of OCA. “The wheels of justice turn slowly but they do turn. ... These guys were railroaded and now they’re getting out, and that is what is right and just.”

The Hammonds were charged under a federal anti-terrorism statute, which caused many in agriculture to question the judgment of the prosecutors.

“Farm Bureau was shocked by the minimum five-year sentence the Hammonds faced,” said American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall. “Even worse was the Justice Department’s decision to use anti-terrorism laws to prosecute them. We could not be happier this ugly chapter in governmental overreach has come to an end.”

For some critics of the Obama administration, the Hammond case served as an example of a federal perse-

cution of ranchers to bolster environmental aims.

The pardons will hopefully make it clear that federal managers are not free to put ranchers out of business and take their land, said Dave Duquette, a Hermiston resident and national strategic planner for Protect the Harvest, an agricultural and hunting nonprofit.

“It will send a message to the lower-level bureaucrats,” he said. “If it doesn’t, then they’re not paying attention because the Trump administration is not going to take that kind of stuff.”

The federal government’s approach to the Hammonds reflects “prosecutorial misconduct” that’s evident in other cases, said Ramona Morrison, daughter of deceased Nevada rancher and “Sagebrush Rebellion” icon Wayne Hage.

“It’s a little spooky that’s how far they will go,” she said. “It’s the same tactic they’ve used across the West.”

LEADERS: Mixed reaction

Continued from 1A

the Hammonds have distanced themselves from the Malheur occupation and its supporters.

Oregon Republicans widely celebrated the news of the pardon on Tuesday.

Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., who had urged the president to pardon the Hammonds, said in a statement that the president’s decision was “a win for justice, and an acknowledgment of the unique way of life in the high desert, rural West.”

“For far too long, Dwight and Steven Hammond have been serving a mandatory minimum sentence that was established for terrorists,” Walden said in the statement. “This is something that would ‘shock the conscience,’ according to Federal Judge Michael Hogan, who presided over the case and used his discretion in sentencing which was later reversed.”

State Sen. Cliff Bentz, R-Ontario, whose Senate district includes Harney County, said in a statement that he was “very happy” for the Hammonds and “grateful to our president for his action.”

“By virtue of presidential discretion, Dwight and Steve can now return to their families and their lives in Eastern Oregon,” Bentz said. “The President’s exercise of his pardon authority serves to remind us that the incredible force of the federal government, under our Constitution, is still subject to a single person’s (our President’s) decision to extend the hand of mercy.”

Republican gubernatorial candidate Knute Buehler said in a Twitter post that “justice has been served” for the Hammonds.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, declined through a spokesman to comment on the pardons.

But Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, a fellow Democrat, took to Twitter Tuesday morning: “The (federal) court overseeing a large swath of the West & Oregon, followed the Rule of Law in overturning the Hammonds’ reduced sentences for committing arson on Oregon (federal) lands. (The president), who has not set foot here since being elected, has pardoned them. We can only wonder why.”

Deadline near for PHS 1978 reunion

PENDLETON — The Pendleton High School class of 1978 40-year reunion is Aug. 3-4.

The registration fee is \$70 per person. Activities include an informal gathering with hors d’oeuvres and no-host bar Friday, Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. at Hamley Steakhouse; music by the Joe Lindsay Family and a parachute jump featuring Stanley “Bo” Kinnison of the Special Forces Association Parachute Team Saturday, Aug. 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the Pow Wow Arena at Wildhorse Resort & Casino, followed by a buffet dinner, music, dancing and no-host bar at 7 p.m. at Wildhorse.

In addition, some classmates plan to meet for a no-host breakfast/brunch buffet Sunday, Aug. 5 at Wildhorse.

Additional optional activities include golfing at Wildhorse, Pendleton Underground Tours and visiting Tamastslikt Cultural Center.

Classmates need to register by Thursday, July 12 via Venmo: @Bridget-VanCleave or checks payable to PHS class of 1978 to Bridget (Boylen) VanCleave, 43786 Jerico Lane, Pendleton, OR 97801. For questions, call Janet (Runnion) Koch at 541-377-0584 or Amy (Holeman) Freeman at 541-377 0132.

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TUESDAY	1:30pm	Bucking Horse Stampede — Main Street
WEDNESDAY	9:00am	Little Buckaroo Special Needs Rodeo
	2:00pm	Slack — Arena
	6:00pm	Rodeo Gates Open — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	7:00pm	PRCA RODEO — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	9:00pm	Family Fun at the Thunder Room — DJ
THURSDAY	9:00am	Tough Enough to Wear Pink Walk
	9:00am	Steer Tripping, Three Rounds
	2:00pm	Slack — Arena
	6:00pm	Rodeo Gates Open — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	7:00pm	PRCA RODEO — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	9:00pm	Tough Enough to Wear Pink — Wear Pink
FRIDAY	9:00pm	Music and Dancing at Thunder Room — DJ — No Cover Charge
	8:00am	Golf Tournament — Alpine Meadows Golf Course
	10:00am	Chief Joseph Junior Parade — Main Street
	2:00pm	Slack — Arena
	6:00pm	Rodeo Gates Open — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	7:00pm	PRCA RODEO — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	9:00pm	All Teen Dance — Joseph Community Center
	9:30pm	Music and Dancing at Thunder Room — FrogHollow Band
SATURDAY	6:00am	Shrine Breakfast begins
	10:00am	Grand Parade — Main Street
	12:00pm	Nez Perce Friendship Feast — Encampment Pavilion
	2:30pm	Slack — Arena
	3:00pm	Traditional Indian Dance Contest — Encampment Pavilion
	6:00pm	Rodeo Gates Open — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	7:00pm	PRCA RODEO — Harley Tucker Memorial Arena
	9:00pm	All Teen Dance — Joseph Community Center
	9:30pm	Music and Dancing at Thunder Room — FrogHollow Band
	After Rodeo	— Cowboy Breakfast — Rodeo Grounds — til 3:00am
SUNDAY	6:00am	Cowboy Breakfast — Rodeo Grounds — til 10:00am
	9:00am	Cowboy Church Service

To purchase tickets and for more information call 541-432-1015 or go to www.chiefjosephdays.com