



Contributed photo by Angelika Ursula Dietrich, File

Old West culture is highlighted during Chief Joseph Days. The 74th annual event kicks off July 23 in Joseph.



Contributed photo by Angelika Ursula Dietrich, File

The Grand Parade during Chief Joseph Days is July 27 in downtown Joseph.

Chief Joseph Days highlights western culture

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

JOSEPH — The tiny town of Joseph will swell tenfold as it welcomes thousands of visitors during Chief Joseph Days. In its 74th year, the six-day celebration kicks off Tuesday, July 23, at 1:30 pm with a bucking horse stampee down Main Street.

“Joseph is a classic western town, with one Main Street running down the center,” said Diane Witherrite, Chief Joseph Days board member and a former court princess. “Kicking off the event with bucking horses stampeding down Main Street just seems like the right way to get everyone in the spirit.”

Stock contractor John Growney, of Growney Brothers, first provided stock animals to Chief Joseph Days in 1989. Of all the rodeos he traveled to in his career, he said he looked forward most to Chief Joseph Days. While



Contributed photo by Angelika Ursula Dietrich, File

The Nez Perce Encampment Pavilion features a Friendship Feast and Native American dancing during Chief Joseph Days.

the stock is now provided by Tim Bridwell, Growney still makes a point to make it to Joseph each year.

“Joseph is like a second home to me,” he said.

Chief Joseph Days turns

the end-of-the-road agricultural and timber community into a world-class sports destination. The rodeo has garnered national recognition from Cowboys & Indians Magazine, and regional recognition from a host of pub-

lications. It was recognized as the “Best Medium Size Rodeo” for the Columbia Circuit in 2018. Chief Joseph Days also holds its own with larger rodeos, making

a Top 10 Must See Rodeo list with the likes of Pendleton Round-Up, the Calgary Stampede and Cheyenne Frontier Days.

“(Chief) Joseph Days offers an intimate rodeo experience. You’re just right there by the action,” long-time rodeo announcer Jody Carper said in explaining some of the event’s appeal.

The first of four nightly Pro Rodeo Cowboy Association rodeos starts Wednesday, July 24 at 7 p.m. at the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena. Rodeo tickets range from \$15 to \$20.

In addition to the rodeo, Chief Joseph Days wrangles in a variety of weekend fun (July 26-28). Activities, which are in Joseph unless otherwise noted, include a golf tournament (Friday at 7 a.m. at Alpine Meadows, Enterprise), live music and dancing featuring Frog Hollow Band (Friday and Saturday nights after the rodeo), teen dances with

Full Tilt (Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m.), parades (Kid-die Parade, Friday at 10 a.m. in Enterprise and the Grand Parade, Saturday at 10 a.m.) and Main Street merchants and vendors.

The annual Nez Perce Friendship Feast is Saturday at noon at the Encampment Pavilion. It includes buffalo and salmon. After enjoying a tasty meal, visitors are encouraged to stick around for the Traditional Indian Dance Contest at 3 p.m.

And a cowboy breakfast starts Saturday night after the rodeo and continues through the wee hours of Sunday morning, followed by a cowboy church service at 9 a.m.

For more information, visit www.chiefjosephdays.com or call 541-432-1015.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

BRIEFLY

Hale among spring graduates at Gonzaga

SPOKANE, Wash. — Joseph Hale, of Pendleton, was among the Gonzaga University students that participated in graduation exercises during a commencement ceremony that was held May 12, 2019, in Spokane’s Veterans’ Memorial Arena.

Gonzaga University is a private Catholic, Jesuit, and humanistic university providing education to more than 7,800 students.

Milton-Freewater grad earns honor roll status

SPOKANE, Wash. — Leslae Brewer, of Milton-Freewater, was one of 1,639 students on the spring 2019 honor roll at Spokane Falls Community College.

Community Colleges of Spokane is a dynamic, 12,300-square-mile state community college district that includes Spokane Community College, Spokane Falls Community College and six rural education sites, serving residents in Pend Oreille, Stevens, Whitman, Ferry and parts of Lincoln counties.

CCS offers high-quality academic transfer, career-technical and eLearning degree and certificate programs; business and community training; and adult literacy programs throughout northeastern Washington, enrolling approximately 34,000 students a year.

THURSDAY, JULY 18

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Stories and activities for young children. (541-966-0380)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. For children from 3-6 years old. (541-567-2882)

PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8 S.W. Eighth Ave. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. 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. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., 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 available by donation. (541-567-3582)

SENSORY STORY TIME, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

YARN CLUB, 5:30 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882)

THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO, 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. 18 and older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. (541-567-7615)

STANFIELD PUBLIC MEETINGS, 6 p.m., Stanfield High School cafeteria, 1120 N. Main St. ODOT officials presentation on proposed repairs and changes to Highway 395 between Harding Street and Ball Avenue. (Blair Larsen 541-449-3831)

FIDDLER’S NIGHT, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Avamere Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (Lori 541-567-3141)

RED CROSS DISASTER SERVICES VOLUNTEER RESPONSE TRAINING, 6:30-7:30 p.m., 214 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Join local Red Cross response volunteers to learn how you can help in disasters. (Don Tombleson 541-276-9222)

COMING EVENTS

FIRST DRAFT WRITERS’ SERIES, 7-9 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Apricot A. Irving will read from her work. Open mic follows. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)

FRIDAY, JULY 19

WILLOW CREEK FARMERS MARKET, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St. Vendor space available for \$25 adults, \$10 school-aged children. (Andrea DiSalvo 757-285-5792)

TODDLER STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380)

FREE FRIDAY LUNCH, 12 p.m., Echo Community Church, 21 N. Bonanza St. Everyone welcome.

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Harkenrider Center, 255 N.E. Second St., 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 available by donation. (541-567-3582)

STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 S. Bonanza. (541-376-8411)

VFW BINGO, 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. (541-567-6219)

LIVE FROM THE LESLIE: URAL THOMAS & THE PAIN, 6 p.m., The Lodge, 14 S.E. Third St., Pendleton. Stag Bar opens at 6 p.m., concert doors open at 7 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m. Advance tickets are \$10 (BrownPaperTickets.com), \$12 at the door. No-host beer, wine and cocktails available. (Adam Mack 541-240-2070)

SATURDAY, JULY 20

PARKING LOT SALE, 8-11 a.m., Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. Clothing 5 items for \$1, furniture priced as marked and knick-knacks you-name-the-price. Donations welcome. (Dave Hughes 541-567-8774)

FREE FOR ALL, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Free art classes for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)

YARN CLUB, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882)

QUILTS OF VALOR EXHIBITION, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Heritage Station Museum, 108 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton. Quilts of Valor members will be displaying their creations and answering questions about the group. (Shannon Gruenhagen

541-276-0012)

HIP & HANDMADE, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Free drop-in project class for adults. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)

STRAIGHT TALK WITH BECKY MARKS, 2-4 p.m., The Saddle Restaurant, 2220 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Share thoughts with Ward I councilwoman. (541-276-9147)

ASTRONOMY: THEN AND NOW, 2 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Andrea K. Dobson of Whitman College will discuss the moon landing and careers in science. (Heather Culley 541-966-0380)

IRRIGON FARMERS MARKET, 6-9 p.m., Irrigon Public Library west lawn, 490 N.E. Main Ave. (Aaron Palmquist 541-922-3047)

SUNDAY, JULY 21

PAUL GORHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST, 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Pendleton Masonic Lodge, 1350 N.W. Carden Ave. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for ages 6-12. Call-in orders welcome. Donations accepted. (Marty Patterson 541-278-0995)

SPECIAL NEEDS OPEN GYM, 12:30-1 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free for special needs children and families. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

KBLU CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP, 3 p.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Share ideas on format of Pendleton area’s newest radio station. (Vickie or Gary 541-566-2744 or 541-566-0131)

MONDAY, JULY 22

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 a.m., Athena Public Library, 418 E. Main St. For ages birth to 6. (541-566-2470)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. 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. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

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