

Tribute band escapes with Journey

Chute 8 hosts Aug. 24 concert

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Escape, a California-based tribute band, urges people to “Don’t Stop Believin’” as they perform the songs of Journey.

The group will take the stage Saturday, Aug. 24 from 7-9 p.m. at Chute 8 at Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. The gates open at 6 p.m. — food vendors and a beer garden will be available.

Tickets are \$10 each, with kids under 3 admitted free. While seating is available, people can bring a blanket or lawn chair.

Formed in 1996, by professional musician Stu Simone (keyboard, guitar, vocals), Escape has featured several renditions over the years. Chad Smith (lead vocals), who joined the

group in October 2013, gets high marks from his bandmates for his ability to represent the sound and moves of Journey’s Steve Perry.

The tribute band’s name, Simone said, is derived from “Escape,” Journey’s album released in 1981 that features their hits “Don’t Stop Believin’,” “Who’s Crying Now” and “Open Arms.”

The concert is the third of its kind being brought to Hermiston by a small group who are mostly interested in having additional entertainment options in town. Jeff Snell of Hermiston became aware of the tribute band A Toast to Bread through a social media post. As a fan of Bread, a soft rock-pop group from the 1970s, Snell began to investigate the possibility of bringing the Utah-based group to town.

After talking to several friends, including Mike Atkinson of Atkinson Staffing, Snell said the idea grew legs. The Bread tribute band show was staged this past November in the Hermis-



Escape, a Journey tribute band, will perform Aug. 24 at Chute 8 at Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, Hermiston.

Photo contributed by Chad Smith

ton High School auditorium. Snell said the free show drew about 350 people.

While the small group of concert-promoting entrepreneurs charged a fee for a May show featuring Fastlane, an Eagles tribute band, and are selling tickets for

Escape, they aren’t in it for the money. The ticket prices, Snell said, is an effort to cover the expenses of bringing the bands to town.

“It’s not a money-making enterprise,” Snell said.

“It’s really just about trying to bring something fun

and affordable to Hermiston,” Atkinson added.

Snell and Atkinson are surprised at the number of tribute bands available. The groups, Snell said, offer a good quality sound without having to pay a premium price.

When looking at possible groups, they try to determine what people might like. In addition, they are open to feedback and suggestions for upcoming shows. Snell and Atkinson are researching the possibility of a Queen tribute band or a duo that performs the songs of Simon and Garfunkel.

“We keep doing it because it gives us something to do here in Hermiston,” Snell said. “We’re a big enough place that we want to do more than going to a movie, go bowling or out to eat.”

Advance tickets are available at Eastern Oregon Physical Therapy, 1050 W. Elm Ave., Hermiston, or www.brownpapertickets.com. In addition, tickets will be sold at the gate beginning at 6 p.m. For more information, search Facebook for “Escape: The Journey Tribute Concert.”

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

Tumbleweed festival rolls out acoustic music

East Oregonian

RICHLAND — Acoustic music takes center stage as the Tumbleweed Music Festival kicks off a three-day event.

In its 23rd year, the event is sponsored by the Three Rivers Folklife Society. The festival is Aug. 30 through Sept. 1 at Howard Amon Park in Richland. All events are free except the Saturday night concert (\$10 for adults or \$8 for seniors/students) and the Sunday contra dance fundraiser.

The festival features more than 100 acts on five outdoor stages, including an open mic stage. In addition, it utilizes an indoor performance stage, an indoor dance floor and workshop rooms, with topics including dance, songwriting, singing, performance tips and more. Also, there will be food and craft vendors. Volunteer opportunities are still available to help with the festival.



Contributed photo

The Drunken Maidens, a Seattle-based female ensemble, will perform at the Aug. 31 evening concert during the Tumbleweed Music Festival at Richland’s Howard Amon Park.

The Saturday evening (Aug. 31) concert kicks off at 7 p.m. with Cosmo’s Dream, who blends acoustic musicianship with solo vocals and three-part harmonies. The Tacoma-based trio features Gen Obata on flatpick guitar and mandolin, Steve Nebel on guitar, and Kristi Nebel on bass.

Taking the stage at 8 p.m.

is The Drunken Maidens. The Seattle-based female ensemble offers vocal harmonies as well as guitar, fiddle, mandolin, whistles, squeezebox and percussion. They offer up everything from wistful strains of old-time music to saucy English folk songs.

And finishing out the night is Tom Rawson & Ellen van



Photo contributed by Kristi Nebel
Cosmo’s Dream, an Americana trio from Tacoma, is performing Aug. 31 during the Tumbleweed Music Festival at Howard Amon Park in Richland.

der Hoeven. Hailing from Orcas Island and from Vancouver, British Columbia, they are songwriters, song collectors and folk singers, who come armed with banjos, guitars and other instruments to delight the crowd. Get ready to tune up your vocal chords and sing along.

For festival information, visit www.tumbleweedfest.com or search Facebook. For questions, contact 509-539-8090 or davidmcarson14@gmail.com.

Juniper Jam gears up for 11th annual music festival

East Oregonian

ENTERPRISE — People are encouraged to start making plans to attend the 11th annual Juniper Jam.

Billed as “the sweetest little music festival in Eastern Oregon,” the event highlights original musicians and features two stages with nonstop live music. Juniper Jam is Saturday, Aug. 31 from 11 a.m. to approximately 10 p.m. at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds in Enterprise. Advance tickets are \$20, which can be purchased at www.juniperjam.com and several Wallowa County businesses. In addition, festival-goers can reserve camping online for \$5 per night at the fairgrounds.

See next weekend’s *East Oregonian* entertainment page for a full story. For questions, contact the Wallowa Valley Music



Contributed by Leon Press
Photographic

MAÏTA is headlining the 11th annual Juniper Jam Aug. 31 at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds in Enterprise. Advance tickets are \$20.

Alliance at 541-426-3390 or info@wvmusicalliance.org.

WHAT TO DO

FESTIVALS

Melon Fest
• Saturday, Aug. 17; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
• Downtown Hermiston
Free admission. Live music, food and vendor booths, seed-spitting contest, watermelon costume contest, a photo booth, kids activities and random slices of watermelon handed out. After-party (6 p.m.) at Maxwell Pavilion for 21-and-older features music with The Outsiders.

Morrow County Fair
• Aug. 14-17
• Morrow County Fairgrounds, Heppner
www.co.morrow.or.us/fair
Free admission. Features entertainment, food, open class exhibits, FFA/4-H and livestock auction.

Adams Community Picnic
• Saturday, Aug. 24; 4-7 p.m.
• Adams City Park, Main Street
www.cityofadamsoregon.com
Free. Play old-fashioned games, enjoy barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers (those attending are invited to bring a dish to share), live music and presentation of summer reading program awards.

Main Street Block Party
• Friday, Aug. 30; 6-10 p.m.
• Main Street, Pendleton
www.facebook.com
Free. All-ages welcome. Features the music of Western Centuries & Sera Cahoon, food vendors and a beer garden.

Juniper Jam
• Saturday, Aug. 31,
11 a.m.-10 p.m.
• Wallowa County Fairgrounds, Enterprise
www.juniperjam.com
\$20/advance, \$25/gate, free/ages 12 and under. Features multiple genres of music, including folk, country, Americana, roots, rock and blues. Also, food and beverage vendors, local artisans and children’s activities. Camping available for \$5 for festival-goers.

ART, MUSEUMS & AUTHORS
“Michael Wartgow: Lost Verses”

• Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m.
• Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Features the photography and reclaimed paper objects of Wartgow, an art instructor at Marian University in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Runs through Aug. 31.

“A River Runs Through Us: The Art and Words of the Lostine”
• Monday-Saturday;
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
• Joseph Center for Arts and Culture, 403 N. Main St., Joseph
www.joseph.org
Free. Exhibit highlights the wild watershed area, its inhabitants, the river, forests and alpine setting. Runs through Sept. 9.

“Savages and Princesses: The Persistence of Native American Stereotypes”
• Monday-Saturday;
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
• Tamástslikt Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.
www.tamastslikt.org
\$10/adults, \$9/senior citizens, \$6/youths. Features the artwork of 13 contemporary Native American artists — whether using humor, subtlety or irony, the exhibit is fiercely honest. Runs through Oct. 19.

MUSIC

The Groove Surfers
• Saturday, Aug. 17; 8 p.m. No cover
• Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Tylor & the Train Robbers
• Monday, Aug. 19; 7 p.m.
• Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. All ages. The Boise-based band features Eastern Oregon native Tylor Ketchum. The gritty folk-Americana group is promoting their latest release, “Best of the Worst Kind.”

Wednesdays in the Park
• Wednesday, Aug. 21; 6-8 p.m.
• Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court

Ave., Pendleton
www.pendletonparksandrec.com

Free. Special guest TBA. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for the family-friendly shows. Food, beer and wine available for purchase.

The Wasteland Kings
• Thursday, Aug. 22; 7-9 p.m.
• 40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton
No cover. La Grande-based band rocks Americana and more.

Gainsayer
• Friday, Aug. 23; 7 p.m.
• Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. All ages. New project of Levi Ethan Cecil and Becca Schultz.

Kaitie Wade
• Friday, Aug. 23; Saturday, Aug. 24; 8 p.m. No cover
• Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Escape
• Saturday, Aug. 24; 7-9 p.m.
www.brownpapertickets.com
• Chute 8, EOTEC, 1705 Airport Road, Hermiston
\$10/general, free/ages 3 and under. Features Journey tribute band. Food vendors and beer garden available. Gates open at 6 p.m.

Brass Fire
• Saturday, Aug. 24; 7-10 p.m.
• Red Lion, 304 S.E. Nye Ave., Pendleton

No cover. Features regional horn band, playing the music of Santana, Chicago, Elvis, Earth Wind & Fire.

James Dean Kindie & Roger Conly
• Saturday, Aug. 24;
8:30-10:30 p.m.

• Virgil’s at Cimmiyotti’s, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. Local musicians James Dean Kindie (vocals, guitar, harmonic) and Roger Conly (pedal steel) perform classic and soon-to-be classical country tunes in an intimate setting.

Open Mic at GP
• Thursday, Aug. 29; 7 p.m.
• Great Pacific Wine & Coffee

Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. All ages are welcome. Bring your instrument, voice, family and friends.

Groove Nation
• Friday, Aug. 30; Saturday, Aug. 31; 8 p.m. No cover
• Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

NIGHT LIFE
Karaoke w/DJ David
• Saturdays; 8 p.m.
• Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

Saturday Night Trivia
• Saturdays; 9 p.m.
• Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
Free. Show what you know for fun and prizes.

BBQ-Bingo-Silent Auction
• Saturday, Aug. 17; 5:30-8 p.m.
• Neighbor Dudes, 405 N. First St. Suite 104, Hermiston

No cover. Benefit event for Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue features German sausages, hot dogs and a vegetarian/vegan option. Enjoy a night out, bid on some items and support the nonprofit group that helps with stray animals in need of veterinary care.

Karaoke Party
• Wednesdays & Thursdays;
9 p.m. No cover.
• The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Wino Wednesdays
• Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m.
• Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 N. Thielsen St., Echo

Karaoke at the Packard
• 1st/3rd Wednesday,
9 p.m.-midnight
• The Packard Tavern, 118 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton
No cover.

Thirsty Thursdays
• Third Thursday; 6 p.m.
• Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

No cover. Hosts a local brewery offering tastings and food pairings.

LOL Comedy Jam
• Thursdays; 8 p.m.

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

No cover. Aug. 22: Aaron Yonkosky, Dwight Slade; Aug. 29: Greg Beachler, Bill Scott

Karaoke
• Thursdays, 9 p.m.
• The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

First Thursday Wine Tasting
• Thursday, Sept. 5, 5-7 p.m.
• The Gathering Place at Bellinger’s, 1823 S. Highway 395, Hermiston
Free. Features live music and wine tasting from Watermill Winery.

THEATER, STAGE, FILM & LECTURES

Free Summer Movies for Kids!
• Wednesday/Thursday;
9:15 a.m.
• Hermiston Stadium 8 Cinema, 355 W. Theater Lane
www.facebook.com
Free. Parents w/their children also free. Movies start as rooms fill; with last start time at 10 a.m. Sensory-friendly showing at 10:15 a.m. Aug. 21-22: “Monsters vs. Aliens”

HOT TICKETS
• **Wheatstock Music Festival.** (Reckless Kelly, headliner) Aug. 17, Quantum 9 Arena, Helix). Early bird tickets (\$20) via www.wheatstock.org
• **Round-Up Happy Canyon Kick-off Concert (Trace Adkins)** Sept. 9, Happy Canyon Arena. Tickets (\$46 to \$150) via www.pendletonroundup.com
• **Live from the Leslie: (Red Shahan w/Denver, Sept 13), (Federale w/Jenny Don’t & The Spurs, Sept 14)** The Lodge, Pendleton. Tickets (\$12-\$17) via www.brownpapertickets.com

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to community@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.