

# Celebrate Recovery offers hope, healing

## September is National Recovery Month

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

STANFIELD — In an effort to promote treatment and recovery from substance use disorders, the month of September is designated as National Recovery Month. Initially established 32 years ago by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Faces & Voices of Recovery took the reins last year. The goal is to highlight the recovery community, as well as treatment providers and community members who contribute to making recovery — in all its forms — not only possible but a reality.

Scott Zielke, associate pastor of congregational care at Stanfield Baptist Church, wants people to know that despite the global pandemic, a local Celebrate Recovery group continues to be active. As an outreach ministry, the Christ-centered 12-step program is for people dealing with a variety of addictions and life struggles.

“Unfortunately the problems of life have not disappeared with COVID,” Zielke said. “We’ve been so isolated and it gives people an opportunity to share their hurts, habits and hang-ups in a safe place.”

Celebrate Recovery started in 1991 at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California. Since then, more than 35,000 churches across the globe utilize the program to facilitate healing through the power of God. Stanfield Baptist added the

outreach ministry in 2018.

Prior to the pandemic, Zielke said weekly attendance averaged around 35 people. After Gov. Kate Brown’s initial stay home order in March 2020, it dwindled to maybe a dozen attendees. Zielke said those numbers are starting to climb again with 15-20 participants each week.

Zielke gets excited when sharing about the victories people are experiencing. Whether they’re self-medicating with such things as alcohol, drugs, gambling, anger or overspending, he sees God working in people’s lives.

“We have seen individuals ... come in broken and their lives have been in shambles,” he said, “and they’ve been able to put the pieces back together.”

Celebrate Recovery meets each Monday, 6-8 p.m. at the church, 310 E. Wheeler Ave., Stanfield. The gathering begins with a time of worship and celebrating milestones in recovery. Also, either a lesson is presented or someone shares their testimony.

People are then free to leave or attend gender-specific share groups. At the conclusion of the program, there’s often an informal social time. Prior to the pandemic, the evening also included sharing a meal together. Zielke is hopeful to resume that in the future.

For more information about Celebrate Recovery, call 541-571-6886, 541-449-3313 or visit [www.celebraterecovery.com](http://www.celebraterecovery.com).

Contact community writer  
Tammy Malgesini at [tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com](mailto:tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4532.



Scott Zielke, associate pastor of congregational care, leads a worship session during Celebrate Recovery in September 2019 at Stanfield Baptist Church. Tammy Malgesini/East Oregonian, File

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Summer readers pedal away with new bikes

PENDLETON — This year, the Pendleton Public Library Summer Reading Program had a new sponsor. Library Director Jennifer Costley said thanks to the Knights of Pythias, three readers in first, second and third grades received brand new bikes and helmets as part of the fraternal organization’s Read and Ride program.

The bikes, which were strategically placed at the entrance of the library, raised increased interest in the summer reading program — encouraging kids to read and turn in as many reading logs as possible to earn entries into the drawing for bicycles. Cage Ashby, Presley Holcom and Alice Buderus each pedaled away as grand prize winners.

For more information about library programs, contact Costley at 541-966-0386 or [jennifer.costley@ci.pendleton.or.usdrawings](mailto:jennifer.costley@ci.pendleton.or.usdrawings).

### Oldies Night highlights songs of Billy Joel

MILTON-FREEWATER — People are invited to “Come Just the Way You Are” as the hits of Billy Joel are featured during Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater.

Known as the “Piano Man,” Joel has made a living with catchy, inspirational and sometimes political tunes, such as “Uptown Girl,” “Only the Good Die Young,” “She’s Always a Woman,” “Goodnight Saigon” and



Pendleton Public Library Summer Reading Program participants Cage Ashby, Presley Holcom and Alice Buderus received new bicycles, which were donated by the Knights of Pythias, as part of the fraternal organization’s Read and Ride program. Jennifer Costley/Contributed Photo

“We Didn’t Start the Fire.” BJ the DJ will spin a number of them Saturday, Sept. 11, 7-10 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. DJ Bob Jones also will provide commentary about the songs and the times.

Admission is free. For more information, contact Jones at [dubuquer70@gmail.com](mailto:dubuquer70@gmail.com)

or 541-938-7028.

### Music in the Park crescendos with Chasing Ebenezer

HEPPNER — A lively Portland-based band will return to Heppner for the season finale of Music in the Park.

Chasing Ebenezer is described as “a world folk-rock band with Middle Eastern, African and Celtic influences.” The group offers up bohemian violin

licks, world percussion and an ever-increasing array of instruments. The music often moves audience members to get up and dance.

The free concert is

Sunday, Sept. 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St. People are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair. Also, food will be available for purchase by donation from Hopeful Saints Ministry, which is raising money for its Mission and Outreach Fund.

For more information, contact the Heppner Chamber of Commerce at 541-676-5536 or [heppnerchamber@centurytel.net](mailto:heppnerchamber@centurytel.net). For more about the band, visit [www.chasingebenezer.com](http://www.chasingebenezer.com) or search Facebook.

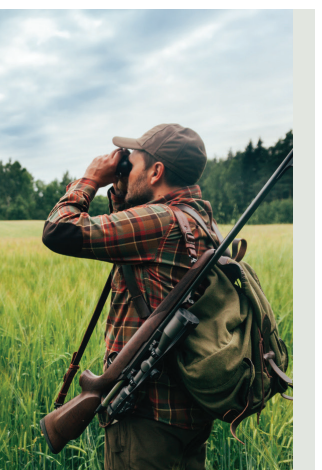
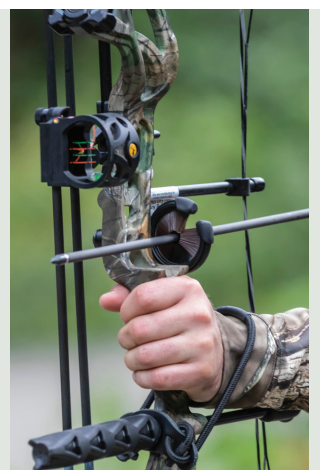
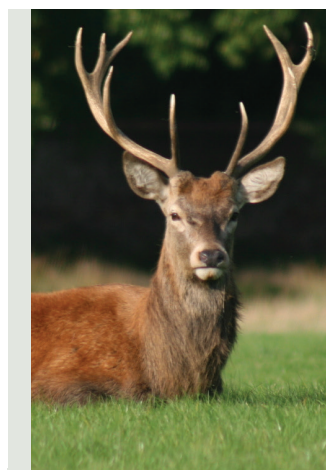
### BMCF seeks grant applicants

WALLA WALLA — The Blue Mountain Community Foundation is currently accepting applications for the 2021 Discretionary Grant Program.

Public agencies, 501c3 nonprofits and churches in Umatilla, Walla Walla, Columbia and Garfield counties are invited to apply. Eligible organizations can apply for grants of up to \$35,000 for general operating expenses or to support a specific program or project. Applications must be submitted online by Friday, Oct. 1. Award announcements will be made in December.

For more information or to apply, visit [www.bluemountainfoundation.org](http://www.bluemountainfoundation.org). For questions, contact Greer Buchanan, grants manager at 509-529-4371 or [greer@bluemountainfoundation.org](mailto:greer@bluemountainfoundation.org).

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