



S.F. Tool/Chieftain

Although something seems funny to the adults at the entrance, these two girls aren't quite as amused.

Fiesta ushers in 2015 Big Read

By S.F. Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Fishtrap kicked off 2015's Big Read with a fiesta celebration held at the Joseph Community Center the night of Thursday, Jan. 8.

This year's big read features the book "Into the Beautiful North" by celebrated author Luis Alberto Urrea. The book details the journeys of children from a small Mexican town who venture into the U.S. to reclaim the men who have left the village in search of work.

Dozens of people, ranging in age from toddler to senior citizen, crowded into the Joseph Community Center to celebrate by partaking in Hispanic cuisine, participating in a number of Hispanic-flavored games and activities, including the virtual obliteration of a piñata, and listening to various speakers.

Ann Powers, Fishtrap's executive director, expressed satisfaction at the evening's activities. "Part of our goal is to get a community together around great literature, and the evening was a big success," Powers said.

After the festivities wound down somewhat, attendees listened to Fishtrap board chair, Rose Caslar, explain the purpose of the Big Read and the reasons behind the selection of Urrea's book.

Mike Midlo, Fishtrap program manager, then thanked the various donors whose contributions helped fund the program.

Powers gave the final presentation, a 10-minute introduction to the book.

"Most of our Big read events are free, but they're not free to put on. We can offer them for free because we get a lot of support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Oregon Arts Commission, not to mention from a lot of individual donors," Powers said

OK to screen classic Western

ENTERPRISE - Fishtrap will present a free movie screening of the 1960 classic Western, "The Magnificent Seven," at the OK Theatre Thursday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. It's all part of The Big Read celebration of Luis Alberto Urrea's novel, "Into the Beautiful North."

"Come out for a movie, popcorn, and lean how this classic Hollywood Western is linked to Urrea's novel" says Fishtrap Program Manager Mike Midlo.

"The Magnificent Seven" stars Yul Brynner, Steve McQueen, Charles Bronson, James Coburn, Brad Dexter, and Horst Buchholz. They play a group of seven Amer-

ican gunfighters hired to protect a small agricultural village in Mexico from a group of marauding native bandits led by Calvera. "The Magnificent Seven" is an Old West remake of the film, "Seven Samurai." The film is appropriate for all ages.

Over the next four weeks, The Big Read will continue with a variety of events including a performance by Portland's Milagro Theater, a special guest lecture on U.S. Mexican border history by professor Aaron Brown-Strain, and a Big Finale Feb. 8 with author, Luis Alberto Urrea.

On the Web, go to Fishtrap.org for a full schedule

of events and to learn more about "Into the Beautiful North."

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, designed to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and to encourage citizens to read for pleasure and enlightenment, Fishtrap is one of 77 not-for-profit organizations to receive a grant to host a Big Read project between September 2014 and June 2015. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with Arts Midwest.

For more information, or to make a donation to The Big Read contact Fishtrap's Midlo at mike@fishtrap.org

later in an interview. She also explained how Fishtrap chose the various activities included in the evening.

"We wanted to do something celebratory as a kickoff. The book is really fun and whimsical, but it's also dealing with serious subjects such as immigration, international relations, economics and the drug wars. (Urrea) just writes it in a fun way and we wanted to make it a fun and whimsical opening."

Fishtrap members asked around for input on possible activities and the organization chose the ones it could pull off with its resources. "The kids really seemed to gobble them up," Powers said.

During the Kickoff, Powers invited the public to the next Big Read event, the showing of "The Magnificent Seven" at the OK Theatre on Jan 15. "We challenged people to start reading the book and why we're showing this movie, and what the link is between the movie and the book. Come with the answer and we'll put it in a drawing, and someone will get a prize," Powers said.

Street repair input sought

By S.F. Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH - The Joseph City Council and Mayor Dennis Sands once again contemplated avenues for funding street repair at the Jan. 8 city council meeting. A \$2.5 million bond levy proposal was rejected by city voters in the Nov. 4 election.

Sands brought up the idea of a transportation utility fee, which adds a surcharge on people with utility hookups. "It's a user's fee. Basically, anyone who lives in town is a user, so it's a charge on residents," Sands said. He also said placing the utility fee on people with empty lots amounted to raising property taxes, and he wished to stay away from that.

Placing an equal monthly fee on property owners, regardless of property value, did seem more agreeable to citizens, Sands said.

Council member Teresa Sajonia asked if anyone inquired as to how other towns attached fees to property owners of empty lots.

Sands replied the city could ask its legal counsel, Wade Baum, but Sands likened charging empty lot owners for utility fees to forcing someone who only rides a bicycle to pay a

gas tax. Sands also said charging people by the lot placed an unfair burden on people who owned more than one lot.

Sands announced a town hall meeting for Thursday, Jan. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Joseph Community Center. The mayor said Brad Baird, president of Anderson Pery Engineering, planned to give a presentation on street repair options as well as sit at the main table with Sands and City Recorder Donna Warnock to answer questions from citizens about the potential project.

Sands also said he'd like to see at least as good a community turnout for the town hall as last year's meeting on the same subject in order to obtain as many different viewpoints as possible. He mentioned low petroleum prices as added incentive to expedite the project.

"I'd really like for everyone to let their friends, neighbors and customers know that we welcome all input and suggestions. We're coming on toward crunch time if we want to get something done this year," Sands said.

Sajonia said, "I hope a lot of people show up because I feel like we're bouncing our heads off the wall saying, 'What do we do next?' to make this fair for everyone."

Soroptimist Fellowship Award \$2000

Woman Continuing Her Education by Earning a Post-Graduate (Master or Doctorate) Degree.

Application deadline: February 15, 2015.

Applications available at Soroptimist Thrift Shop For More Information call Carolyn Pfeaster (541-886-9395)





Do you or someone you care for have a Chronic Condition?



Come hear:

- How to relax
- How to handle difficult emotions
- How to set weekly goals
- How to better communicate
- How to solve problems effectively
- How to work with health care teams

All classes are free and open to the public.
Registration is required.

Classes start January 21, 1:30-4:00 p.m.
Wallowa Senior Center
204 East Second, Wallowa

Please Call Connie at Community Connection
(541) 426-3840 to register or for more information.




- ✓ Durable
- ✓ Innovative
- ✓ Energy Efficient
- ✓ Stylish

For over 50 years, **Larson** has brought innovations, value and quality to the storm door business. **It's what we do.**



Many Styles to Choose From!
Main Street Joseph 432-1917

GREAT DEALS ON A VARIETY OF STORAGE



HOT DEAL!
4.99 YOUR CHOICE

5-Pk., 6-Qt. Storage Boxes or 2-Pk., 16-Qt. Storage Boxes
With white, snap-shut lids. W 181 178, 179 86
While supplies last. Contents not included.

HOT DEAL!
4.99 YOUR CHOICE

18-Gal. Storage Totes
Choose from green, blue or pink. W 190 925, 927, 928 88 While supplies last.

66-Qt. Latch Storage Box
Choose from clear, blue, green or pink. W 501 876; 138 463, 464, 460
F4 While supplies last. Contents not included.

M-F 8AM-6PM • SAT 8AM-5PM • SUN 9AM-3PM

Hurricane Creek Road Enterprise, Oregon 541-426-3116






Bank of Eastern Oregon

Get BEO's Mobile App for your Android or iPhone & bank from the comfort of your home or when you're far away from home - & **New** for your BEO App: Mobile Deposits!



Stop in & see us at the Enterprise branch & sign up today!

Enterprise Branch • 101 Hogan Street
541-426-4205
www.beobank.com

Hometown People, Hometown Spirit