

# Students write on ECX

*Editor's note: Mrs. Knifong's 6th grade class at Enterprise School had a memorable time at the 2015 Eagle Cap Extreme sled dog race. After meeting some of the dogs at the veterinary checks conducted in Enterprise, the students made a trip to Ferguson Ridge Ski Area to witness the start of the race. Afterwards, some of the students produced written accounts of their experiences watching the 2015 race, and a few of them also had photos to go along with those.*



Members of Mrs. Knifong's 6th grade class at Ferguson Ridge Ski Area for the 2015 ECX.

Courtesy photo

Following are write-ups from a couple of those students. Readers will find four more on the Chieftain's website, at wallowa.com.

## Racing to the End

By Arian Latta

The air was full of barks and yips as another icy breeze flew past my face, tickling my nose. Children were climbing up hills covered in a snow blanket while tumbling down like snowflakes from a winter sky. I sat down and took a big bite from my sandwich. Fergi was truly beautiful.

I hiked up a hill along the race trail. From a distance I heard the announcer calling out information of the racers when then he said the race would start in five minutes. I started to pull out my camera and search the horizon for racers. Then it happened. The

announcers yelled GO and the first racer kicked off.

She came around corner when my camera flashed, the blinding brightness lighting up the snow. After that, another, after another came rushing through the snow. The Race ended when the sun sank down in the snowy, crystal hills. Not for the mushers though. For them it was just the beginning.

## The Beginning of the Eagle Cap Extreme

By Aubrina Melville

Welcome to the 2015 Eagle Cap Extreme. The air is filled with the sound of many dogs yipping. Today's weather is perfect the snow lays nearly untouched.

The Mushers are readying their dogs for the big day, and filling their sled with all the necessary items from gloves to food.

Today we have with us last year's winner of the 100 mile race. Roy Etnire is here to answer a few questions for us.

Roy, how many years have you been mushing?

"I've been mushing since 2006."

Roy, which dog is your favorite.

"Probably Gondor. I've had him since he was a puppy."

How do you feel about the race today?

"The dogs are doing great. I feel like we will do great probably at least in the top 5."

Thank you for your time Roy.

The sidelines are full of spectators. The Enterprise 6th grade has gone up the trail a

ways to a little hill to cheer the mushers on. As of right now they tumbling and sliding down the hill.

The race has begun. The first team has left the starting line. There are many more to follow.



S.F. Tool/Chieftain  
Near to far, Leanna Scott, Cole Scott and Kenon Nash whip up some frosting for cookies at Wallowa Valley Senior Living on Jan. 29.

## SDA students fixtures at WV Senior Living

By S.F. Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Students from the Seventh-Day-Adventist School visit Wallowa Valley Senior Living Center once a week to join in activities with the center's residents. Jan. 29 saw the students visiting and baking cookies with residents.

Lacey Doss, the center's activities director, said the residents look forward to the children's visits. "We love to

have them come down. It's been great for our people. We play 'balloon pop,' ball or do stretching exercises starting at 10 a.m. every Thursday."

Doss encourages the public to attend. "Today we were making cookies, but we'd love to have everyone and anyone attend," she said. "We're always kid and critter friendly. Bring your dog, bring your children. Sit around, have a cup of coffee and visit, we'd love to have you."

## Big Read heads to finale

Fishtrap's Big Read celebration of the novel, "Into the Beautiful North," wraps up this weekend with a double-header finale Feb. 7-8. It begins Saturday with Portland's Milagro Theater giving a free 3 p.m. matinee performance of their play, "Searching for Aztlan" at the OK Theatre in Enterprise.

Earlier that morning, Milagro actors offer a 10 a.m. Community Workshop for folks interested in theater, acting, and cultural identity.

Then on Sunday, Feb. 8, the community is invited to a potluck dinner with "Into the Beautiful North" author Luis Alberto Urrea. Traveling all

the way from Chicago, Urrea comes to Wallowa County with an entertaining and informative talk about the characters and events that inspired him to write the novel. Tickets are available at Fishtrap, The Bookloft, and Wallowa Library. Authentic tamales will be provided by La Laguna.



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OF ENTERPRISE!**

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