

Photo exhibit celebrates area's wild landscapes

JOSEPH — A juried, prized exhibit of wild landscape photography from Wallowa, Baker and Union counties opens at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture with a reception starting at 7 p.m. this Saturday, Aug. 1. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The exhibit is the first of its kind in Wallowa County and will have three judges present for the awards selections on Saturday. The three judges — Kendrick Moholt, David Paul Bayles and Dan Thornton — will also serve as speakers the previous night at the Josephy Center's "Live and Up Front" artist lecture series. That event starts at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 31.

Both events are free, but donations are welcome.

From 170 images submitted by 40 photographers, the judges selected 29 images representing a dozen photographers for the upcoming exhibition.



This image of Horseshoe Lake in the Eagle Cap Wilderness is by La Grande photographer Eric Valentine.

Prizes to be awarded are \$750 for first place, \$500 for second,

\$250 for third, and honorable mentions at \$100.

In keeping with the spirit of the state's "Seven Wonders of

Oregon" advertising campaign, each photograph will demonstrate the wild landscape of the region, from its river canyons to its bench grass prairies to Eagle Cap Wilderness.

Gallery hours at the Josephy are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekdays, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. The wild landscapes exhibit is made possible by Ann Werner and the Oregon Community Foundation's Werner-Ellithorp Fund.

As a part of the wild landscape theme, the Josephy Center will be hosting three photography classes for which registration is available online at www.josephy.org:

- A two-day workshop on Adobe Lightroom with Dan Thornton — Aug. 3 and 4 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$95.

- Photography with Kendrick Moholt — a one-day workshop that covers your DSLR camera and the basics

of art photography — Friday, Aug. 7, from noon to 5 p.m. Cost is \$95.

- A three-day workshop, "Refresh and Refine Your Photography," with Karyl Kolb, Aug. 14-17. Cost is \$125.

The Josephy Center will also host two noon hour "Brown Bag" discussions regarding the wild landscape, Aug. 11 and 25.

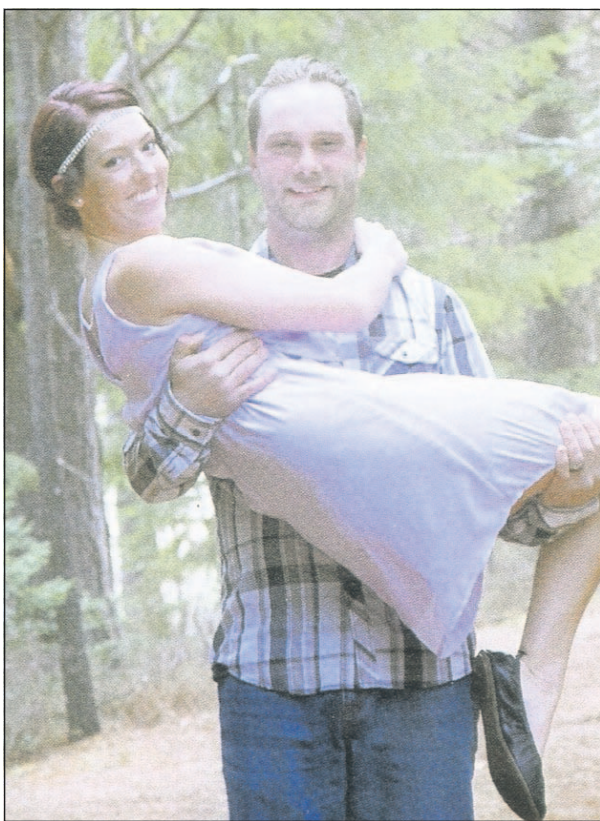
Judge Kendrick Moholt, of Lostine, is a photographer, field zoologist and botanist who has worked more than 30 years at locations around the globe.

Judge Daniel Thornton, of Seattle, Wash., is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker and photographer.

Judge David Paul Bayles is a photographer who currently lives and works in the Coast Range of Western Oregon.

For more information, contact Cheryl North Coughlan at 541-432-0505; director@josephy.org.

LONG, ECKSTEIN TO WED IN SUMMERVILLE



Courtesy photo

Elizabeth K. Eckstein and T. Geoffrey Long will exchange wedding vows on Sept. 19, 2015, at The Barn at Tamarack Springs, Summerville. She is the daughter of Neil Eckstein of Elgin and Letha Canfield of La Grande. Geoffrey's parents are Douglas Long of Lostine, and Bobbi and Dan Thompson of Benton City, Wash.

Kids and county focus on food

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County has made leaps forward in offering both better food education and better food choices in the last few years.

That was one of the findings presented by Community Food Systems Coordinator Lauren Johnson, Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Americorps member working with Northeast Oregon Economic Development District (NEOEDD).

Johnson gave her final report as a presentation during the Slow Food Wallowas and Wallowa County Food Council potluck gathering at Fishtrap House in Enterprise, July 16.

Johnson's job while she served in Wallowa County was to analyze the food systems of the county and create strategies to assist in their growth.

As part of that work, Johnson looked at 21 opportunities for growth and set about doing the background work to facilitate growth in those areas.

An example of a growth opportunity was the streamlining of the organizational processes

for the Lower Valley Farmers Market and creation of trainings for producers to build their business plans and marketing skills.



Johnson

With the new opportunity of supplying fresh produce to area restaurants, Deb Reth, a small-scale vegetable producer in Wallowa, took on the responsibility of organizing local producers to meet the need.

It was a better option than Farmers Market, Reth said, because the needs were well defined.

"When you harvest for a restaurant, you know exactly what they want and that they'll order every week," Reth said.

With Johnson's help, she created a formalized network of producers and established standards for the produce and set prices.

The process made buying easier for restaurants and provided a 10 percent commission to the Lower Valley Farmers Market to help pay for the costs of the central drop-off point,

coolers, freezers and dry-storage. The next step, said Johnson, was to see if the cooperative could afford to pay the primary broker (Reth) for a few of the many hours spent managing the process.

Food education programs also saw a continued surge in growth. During her tenure, Johnson saw K-4 field trips to Magic Garden in Imnaha funded in the Joseph Charter School budget, Wallowa Community Garden donate 890 pounds of food to the Wallowa Senior Center and Food Bank, and an ECO Trust mini-grant of \$1,500 from the Farm to Preschool project go toward busing kids from six preschools to the Magic Garden. Johnson assisted by helping plan how gardening and preschool programs would work.

These results are just a fraction of the many positive ad-

vancements made in the county, Johnson said.

"There are so many great initiatives in the county!" she said, citing cooking demonstrations and classes, the SNAP Match program, the CHIPS program at Wallowa Memorial Hospital, donations of library books that teach food science to children, and many other initiatives.

Through her work Johnson discovered that she liked the fiddly and boring work of pushing the papers and creating the business processes.

"I like doing technical support," she said. "I like the boring background work that makes an organization work."

Johnson plans to study policy and change the way food is regarded across the nation.

"My biggest dream is to change our screwed-up farm bill," she said.

Stein's 'Rodeo' whiskey rolls out

By Stephen Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Local whiskey aficionados can rejoice as Joseph's Stein Distillery celebrated the 70th annual Chief Joseph Days Rodeo with the unveiling of a brand new blended whiskey called "Rodeo." The unveiling of the whiskey took place at the CJD sponsors dinner held July 22.

Dan Stein, vice-president and master distiller of Stein, is pleased with the new offering. "It's a two-year blended whiskey, a blend of rye, corn and barley. It's been distilled and aged as a single-grain." He added that blended whiskey has to have at least three separate barrels to be considered as a blend.

This makes "Rodeo" a whiskey similar in composition, though not necessarily in flavor, to such blended Canadian staples as Crown Royal or Pendleton. Stein said those whiskeys probably put four grains in their blends, which he intends to do eventually. Stein himself raises all the grains used in his whiskeys except for corn, which is grown in Hermiston. His aged wheat is currently slated for the manufacture of Hamley's Wheat Whiskey, something Stein distills for the famous Pendleton

restaurant and saloon. He added that he will probably make a four-grain "Rodeo" blend next year.

Word about the new whiskey had already gotten around the community, and several customers bought bottles from Stein during the interview.

The distillery started on the new whiskey idea about three months ago. "The board of directors from the rodeo approached us about doing a whiskey for them. We got the label design and sent it in to Washington, D.C., for approval, and that

took over two months. We got the label approval last Thursday (July 17), got the labels on Friday and started bottling on Saturday," Stein said.

The unveiling of the whiskey at the CJD sponsors event proved an enormous success with bottles number 1 and 70 of the initial 70-bottle run drawing a whopping \$350 and \$450 respectively.

Stein said that after a temporary slump, whiskeys are making a comeback, and new whiskeys in particular are proving very popular. Stein emphasized

that this whiskey is not a one-time bottling and will be available in the future.

The whiskey was headed for the Oregon Liquor Control Commission warehouse on July 27, and from there it will be available throughout the state. Locally, it is available at the distillery as well as both the Joseph and Enterprise liquor stores.

AROUND ENTERPRISE

Check out the new Enterprise Events sign as you drive into town, it turned out beautiful! Courtesy of Greater Enterprise Main Streets (GEMS), your local non-profit group of volunteers dedicated to all things Enterprise



Jack and Tera Johnston
August 1, 2010

My wife and I got married on dock number 3 of Wallowa Lake. Friends and family from five countries descended on this beautiful part of the world for a wonderful day.



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