

Creating Memories cabin welcomes first guests

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Creating Memories, the local charity dedicated to helping both disabled children and adults to connect with nature, recently welcomed the first guests to its newly refurbished cabin at the old Boy Scout camp just south of Wallowa Lake.

The program signed a 50-year lease of the camp with the Boy Scouts last year. The lease also includes an additional 50-year option.

The cabin is an A-frame with a knotty pine interior and set up with all of the amenities for people with disabilities. CM founder, Ken Coreson, and a number of volunteers, including Boy Scouts, refurbished the cabin in their spare time.

The Benson family were the lucky guests who stayed at the cabin. The family includes parents Eric and Triann Benson and their children, Emily and Daniel, of Vancouver, Wash. The family arrived on the night of Aug. 11.

The family connected with CM when Eric Benson played the OK Theatre as bass player for singer Jessie Leigh, who was doing a benefit performance for the program in May of 2014.

Emily Benson, 13, is fighting the good fight against spina bifida, a birth defect that features incomplete closing of the backbone and membranes around the spinal cord. Though she occupies a wheel-

Trespassers, vandals force falls closure

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Increasing vandalism forced the closure of the Wallowa Creek Falls trail, which is on Creating Memories property.

"This place has always been posted with no trespassing signs," Ken Coreson, Creating Memories founder, said. He also said former adjacent property owner Don Butler told chair, her good cheer and eagerness to throw herself into the Creating Memories experience can make you forget that.

The Benson family traveled here to enjoy a fishing trip on Wallowa Lake, courtesy of CM. The filming of the Oregon Public Broadcasting television program "Oregon Travel Guide" segment was also included, but canceled at the last minute because of a family emergency in the OTG ranks.

Emily Benson also received a Nature Conservancy deer tag through CM, which she will put to good use this October, with the assistance of CM members.

"We really appreciate getting to stay here and spend time here. It's so beautiful," Triann Benson said. The rest

him the same thing.

Coreson recounted people using the insides of one of the cabins to barbecue food, which ruined the walls.

A crew sent to do work on one of the buildings found people had set up tents inside. "You know, 99.9 percent of the people are really nice, but you get those few who make it tough for everyone else," Coreson said.

Between people using drugs, and the type of graffiti sprayed on the walls and other property damage, Coreson said Creating Memories can't allow unrestricted access for the time being, although he wants to allow public access as soon as possible.

"I guess I'm a hero and a villain. I wear both hats pretty comfortably," he said.

of the family echoed similar sentiments.

The fishing trip took place on Aug. 13 on Wallowa Lake, courtesy of a boat provided by CM participant Gene Sutton. The family and several other people spent most of the day on the lake. No one caught fish, but that didn't mean it wasn't fun for the participants.

"It was great. We really enjoyed the time out of town, the hospitality and everything. Emily really enjoyed the trip. It was her first time on a boat where she could be comfortable in her own (wheel) chair and enjoy herself," Eric Benson said.

Emily Benson shared her father's enthusiasm about the trip.

"I've stayed in cabins before, but not like this one, it

2015 Thunder Run returns

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain



Courtesy Photo

The second annual Thunder Run, the ultimate bike (motorcycle) rally, runs from Aug. 20-23, mostly at the Wallowa County Fairgrounds. The event is sponsored by The Stubborn Mule Steakhouse and Saloon in Joseph.

Stubborn Mule proprietor, Gary Bethscheider, is pleased with this year's offerings of events. "This year we have four bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Blue Tattoo and Whiskey River are playing Saturday night. Whiskey River is a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band, and they're really good," Bethscheider said.

Bethscheider expects a quiet Aug. 20 with new arrivals and camp and vendor setups, with Friday ratcheting up the excitement, which includes the Bronze Bike parade from Joseph to Enterprise. The Bronze Bike is a built to scale bronze sculpture of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle by artist Dick Cross and cast by Parks Foundry of Enterprise. "Saturday we'll have guided rides and biker games starting at 4 p.m. We'll also have a lot of vendors in the grassy area," Bethscheider said. Those age 21 and younger can enter the food and vendor area free of charge until 4 p.m.

A Show 'n' Shine event of bikes is also planned for

Follow the Bronze Bike - Thunder run organizer Gary Bethscheider and his wife, Sara, sit astride the Bronze Bike, sculpted by artist Dick Cross. The piece will lead the way during the Bronze Bike Tribute Parade that starts in Joseph and ends in Enterprise on Aug. 21.

Saturday. Music will start at 5 p.m. with Blue Tattoo opening for Whiskey River, which starts at 10 p.m. Several raffles are scheduled, including a small bronze replica of the Bronze Bike and a Springfield .45-caliber 911 semi-automatic pistol.

Bethscheider said that despite pouring rain at last year's event, about 900 bikers participated. "This year, the weather forecast is supposed to be nice. I'm hoping we can get a couple thousand this year or more," he said.

Online ticket sales for the event have ended, but are available for purchase at the event. Tickets start at \$10 and range up to \$110 for a four-day VIP pass with amenities. For more ticket and other information and a schedule, check the Thunder Run website: www.wcthunderrun.com.

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WAGES: 'Wealth' doesn't relate to work

Continued from Page A4

I called my brother. Yep, he said, read the intro; you'll get bogged down in the book.

The actual, federal government-set minimum wage has gone from 75 cents per hour in 1950, my age of

awareness, to over \$7 today; in Oregon we are now at \$9.25. States across the country have now pushed well past the federal government, and cities — Seattle, San Francisco, Portland — are now pushing past their states.

Years ago, I ended up in

the company of a bunch of big city businessmen on a fishing trip. An increase in minimum wages was in the works, and they were all opposed. Finally, in exasperation, I said "OK, let the free market do it. And while we're at it, do away with child labor laws and the 40-hour week. The market handled them."

So go for it, Portland: \$12 per hour — four gallons of gas!

Columnist Rich Wand-schneider writes from his home in Joseph.

LETTERS: Project grounded in science

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Fifth, I am not sure what a "multicultural" approach to Maxville means. I do know that African American and white families worked together, socialized together, prayed together, and their children played together. The Memory Project is trying to locate descendants of the original white loggers who toiled the hazards of the woods alongside their African American friends. We all have stories to tell.

Sixth, The Memory Project is a modest project that seeks no federal or state recognition. It is a local project of the Wallowa History Center and will remain dedicated to advancing local collaboration and research to serve our shared history.

Finally, while the project may appear informal in nature, it is grounded in solid social science research methodologies. I hold a doctorate in political science from the University of California at Berkeley and am well aware of the rigors of scientific research. I also appreciate and can respond to the need to make such research accessible.

Pearl Alice Marsh Patterson, Calif.

Church Directory

<p style="text-align: center;">St. Katherine's Catholic Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fr. Roger Fernando 301 E. Garfield Enterprise Mass Schedule Weekdays 7:15am Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am (541)426-4008 stkatherinecenterprise.org St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am All are welcome</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Summit Church</p> <p>Summit Church will worship together with the Church of the Nazarene this Sunday, August 23rd. Service starts at 11:00 a.m. Nursery and Sunday School will be provided up to age 12.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Joseph United Methodist Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3rd & Lake St. • Joseph Pastor Cherie Johnson Phone: 541-432-3102 Sunday Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 am Child care provided at 8:30 am service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Faith Lutheran Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">409 W. Main Enterprise, Oregon Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm Bible Study Tuesdays before the 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11 am LCMS (Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enterprise Christian Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">207 East Main - (541) 426-3449</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship at 8:15 & 11:00 Sunday School at 9:45 Evening Worship at 6:00 (nursery at A.M. services) "Loving God & One Another" David Bruce, Sr. Minister</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Christ Covenant Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Terry Tollefson Church Office: 541-426-0301 Family Prayer: 9am Worship Service: 10am 723 College Street • Lostine Providence Academy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Lostine Presbyterian Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Discussion Group 9:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Childrens program during service Blog: dancinforth.blogspot.com 541.398.0597 Hwy 82, Lostine Stephen Kliever, Minister</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Enterprise Community Church</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BigBrownChurch.org 301 N. E. First Street Enterprise Sunday Worship 11 A.M. (541) 426-3044</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wallowa Assembly of God</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">606 West Hwy 82 Wallowa, Oregon 541-886-8445 Sunday School • 9:30 Worship Service • 10:45 Pastor Tim Barton wallowaassemblyofgod.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">305 Wagner (near the Cemetery) P.O. Box N, Enterprise, OR 97828 541-426-3751 Church 541-426-8339 School Worship Services Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon Pastor Jonathan DeWeber</p>