

BUDWIG: New LP called ‘The Moon and Other Things’

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The Moscow, Idaho musician moved to the Wallowa Valley early in 2015 at the behest of OK Theatre owner, Darrell Brann. The two met through music acquaintances in Moscow.

Budwig is a singer-songwriter who plays guitar and oddly enough, trumpet.

“I feel like trumpet’s my strongest instrument,” Budwig said. “I would say that and songwriting are my strongest skill sets.”

Trumpet was Budwig’s main instrument through his school years, and he particularly enjoyed jazz trumpet.

The trumpet is still a part of Budwig’s music arsenal and he attributes his abilities in song melodies to his trumpet playing.

“On trumpet, I could play melodies people connected with, and I learned how melody works through playing jazz and improvisation,” Budwig said.

Budwig got into songwriting through writing poetry while in high school.

“Then I wrote a couple of jazzy things where I would play the trumpet and sing, kind of like



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Musician Bart Budwig with his two favorite instruments, his prize pawnshop trumpet and vintage Gibson gut string guitar.

Louis Armstrong,” Budwig said.

Budwig’s guitar came from his mother, who died when he was 12.

“She always played songs for us, and we kept the guitar. I literally picked up the guitar, plunked some chords, wrote a song and played an open mic – literally within a couple of weeks,” Budwig said.

The idea of pursuing music as a career evolved slowly as Budwig learned to play guitar and write songs. Early on, he purchased recording equipment and used it to record himself and friends.

“I ended up spending a lot of time recording, and ended up going to Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences in Arizona. I enjoyed writing, working with other musicians and recording, and it turned into me doing a lot of that,” Budwig said.

He added he supported himself working as a Certified Nursing Assistant for the better part of a decade as he honed his music and recording skills.

Budwig currently makes his living as a musician. “I’m trying to make it happen, making enough money so I can focus all my energy on music as long as

possible, and I’m lucky to be in a position to do that,” Budwig said.

“The Moon and Other Things” is described by Budwig as an outlaw Americana album.

“I listen to a lot of mid-60s Waylon (Jennings). It’s kind of lo-fi, super “verbed” out, I love the way it sounds, and he has a really killer band. It really influenced the tone of this record. The first song on the record is directly influenced by that sound,” Budwig said.

Some of the album songs have a fast, 2/4 feel, while the slower-paced songs delve into the Patsy Cline/Van Morrison 6/8 time, which Budwig described as smooth and jazzy. All the songs, with one exception, are written by Budwig.

The album’s title is inspired by a John F. Kennedy quote: “We will go to the moon in this decade and do other things. Not because it is easy, but because it is hard.”

“It kind of matched the album art I was thinking about,” said Budwig.

The album art is the creation of a Budwig friend, Nancy Charles.

“She’s an incredible artist, and I told her the album title and sent her the single, and told her to do whatever she wanted,” Budwig said.

The digital and CD release will feature a different cover shot.

The new album is a follow-up to his first solo album, 2012’s “Whisky Girl.”

“It took awhile to get to this one because I wrote the songs slowly, and I needed to get comfortable enough with them to put them down forever,” he said.

“Over the past couple of years I’ve also been working on a duet album of 15-16 songs that’s available for free online.”

The LP was recorded on a four-track TEAC reel to reel analog recorder as opposed to today’s digital wizardry.

“I’d spent a lot of time over the past couple of years recording bands to cassette and experimenting with the lo-fi side of recording. My goal with this record was balancing hi-fi, the kind of stuff the average person would like, with my love for lo-fi. I hope people will hear it and like it because it has the warmth and vibe of old 50s or 60s recordings,” Budwig said.

The album is self-produced although Budwig said the four-track recorder probably influenced its development more than anything else, although he also credited his collaborations with other musicians.

“Basically, hanging out with other musicians and playing them what I’m working on has an influence as did the musicians who played on the record,” he said.

Budwig didn’t make the record with the idea of making a statement.

“This isn’t a concept album. If there’s a theme, the songs talk about the balance of wanting to be on the road or going somewhere or being at home in community. There’s always that aspect of always wanting something to make you comfortable, but always wanting to go somewhere or be uncomfortable,” Budwig said.

“The Moon and other Things” will be available in May in its initial, limited-edition LP form on fluorescent-pink vinyl or digitally for a name-your-own-price online at bartbudwig.bandcamp.com.

CHIEF: Enterprise police department ready for new Chief

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Officer Kohlhepp, who has assumed the responsibilities generally carried by the Chief of Police since the resignation of former Chief Wes Kilgore in March 2015, reported at the Oct. 12 City Council meeting “everyone in the Justice Center is really, really happy with the selection that was made public with regard to the potential new chief.”

Kohlhepp also reported citizens have approached him and congratulated the city on the process they went through to insure they were getting the right man for the job.

The process has taken months to complete and included an investigation and review

by a team of three East Oregon Police Chiefs, involvement by those chiefs in the ongoing search, a multi-agency and citizen interview team, and an opportunity for the community to meet the final three candidates.

Since the June 2015 publication of the findings of the agency review team from the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police (OACP), Kohlhepp has been working with the Sheriff’s Department and Probation Officer Hacker to address the deficiencies the three chiefs identified.

“In the last couple months we’ve worked really hard to get a bunch of things outlined in that police report up and going and starting to make the necessary changes to get us out of the liability aspect - not only that but to make it as easy as we possible

could for our new chief when he comes in,” Kohlhepp reported.

He was able to tell the council the department-owned firearms issue had been addressed, and although not all officers had a department-owned firearm, “there are a couple of deals in the works to help fund some of that that won’t come out of our budget.”

Kohlhepp also reported significant progress in revamping the handling of evidence in Wallowa County. The evidence room and management of evidence had been strongly criticized by the OACP task force.

Getting this issue resolved has become even more critical given the recent scandal involving an OSP forensic analyst stationed in Bend who is suspected

of skimming drugs from evidence. That individual has been placed on administrative leave while the investigation moves forward.

“It appears there were some problems with evidence tampering, evidence not being analyzed properly, wrong evidence being sent,” said Kohlhepp discussing the issue involving the OSP forensic analyst.

Wallowa County has been lucky in that evidence in only five cases passed through this analyst’s hands and none of them involved drugs, according to District Attorney Mona K. Williams.

Umatilla County, by contrast, has 1,345 cases the forensic analyst was involved in. They will have to go through all of those cases and possibly retry

or dismiss them.

Kohlhepp was able to report significant progress in restructuring the entire evidence handling system for both city and county law enforcement - including working on getting an evidence tech who is not a police officer.

He has in mind a local woman who has come highly recommended by the Oregon Justice Department, he said.

“For as long as anyone can remember, police officers served as evidence technicians,” Kohlhepp said. “The problem with this is there are no checks and balances. At some point in time you are handling evidence you are confiscating from people and this is not a good policy, not a good practice.”

The EPD has also hired

retired Oregon State Police Trooper Jed Stone on a part-time basis. Kohlhepp was extremely pleased with this step, citing Stone’s history with the city and his current certifications as big pluses.

Stone’s father, Bob Stone, was Chief of Police in Enterprise some decades ago, Jed Stone began his more than 25-year career with OSP as a reserve officer in Enterprise, and Kohlhepp himself made his first application to serve as an officer to Bob Stone.

“Stone is someone we can turn around and put on the street and put to work with very little training costs associated,” Kohlhepp said. “Our liability with the city and police department was greatly reduced (due to his training).”

Community Calendar: Halloween fun in county

Sunday, Oct. 18

Nancy Langston, author of Forest Dreams, Forest Nightmares, will talk about fires in Northwest forests at Wallowology, 508 N. Main St. in Joseph starting at 7 p.m. For more information, email katylnesbitt@gmail.com.

Monday - Tuesday, Oct. 19 and 20, Thursday Oct. 22

The Wallowa Lake Lodge is hosting community meetings throughout the county to share more about the campaign working to buy the lodge and keep it operating as a family-friendly, affordable inn. The first meeting is at 7 p.m., at the Wallowa Senior Center Oct. 19; the second meeting is set for 7 p.m., at the Enterprise Community Connections Oct. 20; and the third meeting is at 7 p.m., at the Joseph Community Center Oct. 22.

Tuesday, Oct. 20

Walk With Ease, a 9-week fitness program, begins today at 10 a.m. at the Wallowa Senior Center. Meets for one hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Class costs \$20, which includes workbook, water bottle and other materials. Pre-register at 541-426-3143.

perience necessary. Hall opens at 9 a.m., dice will roll from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Baked potato bar and tournament, \$10. Bring a few extra dollars for the Dutch auction held during lunch. Info: 541-426-8015.

Sunday, Oct. 25

The Inland Northwest Musicians’ Wallowa Valley Orchestra presents Marriage of Figaro Overture by Mozart and March Past of the Kitchen Utensils at the Wallowa High School Gym beginning at 4 p.m.

Monday-Tuesday, Oct. 26-27

Eagle Cap Shooters Association’s annual “Sight in Your Rifle Days,” 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days at range on Ant Flat. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. both days.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Joseph FFA Alumni are holding a Drive By Dinner, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Joseph High School Cafeteria. The dinner is pork loin, potatoes, apple sauce, coleslaw, roll and cookies for \$10. Tickets are available from FFA members or at the Sports Corral in Joseph.

Friday, Oct. 30

It’s Bats About the Lodge at the Wallowa Lake Lodge. Celebrate Halloween early with a variety of family fun activities. From 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., outdoor activities include face painting, dipping caramel apples, bobbing for apples and the Great Pumpkin Hunt where kids get to search for small pumpkins around the lodge. Everyone gets to keep their pumpkins and the winner takes home a pumpkin trick-or-treat bag. Other events include bat masks and the mummy wrap. Just for adults, a pumpkin lawn bowling game will be set out on the lodge’s expansive back yard. At 4:30 p.m., bundle up for bat viewing outside the lodge. From 5 to 6 p.m., more games inside with hot cider, beer, wine and snacks. At 6 p.m. the bat presentation begins. There will also be a presentation on the future of Wallowa Lake Lodge at 6:45 p.m. Costumes encouraged.

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 30-31

Sleepy Creepy Hollow, a fundraiser for MidValley Theatre Company is hosting Halloween carnival adventure, with tricks, treats and games for all. Fun begins at 7 p.m., at the Old Lostine School Gym. Everyone is asked to wear their creepiest,

beautifullest costume. \$10/person or \$25 for a family; ages 5 and younger free. For more information call Stuart 541-432-1630 or Lyn 541-886-7021.

Nov. 7

A 3-on-3 basketball tournament with proceeds going to the Joseph Charter School music program starts at 10 a.m. The tournament is a senior project by Deni Van Winkle. To register you must turn in a registration form by Nov. 2 with the \$25 entry fee. There will be three age group categories, each with its own bracket. Registration forms are at the Joseph Charter School’s front office. Any question contact Van Winkle, email deni.vanwinkle@students.josephcharter.org or 541-263-2656.

The Community Calendar lists fundraisers, free local events and those with a nominal fee organized by nonprofit organizations. Submit information to calendar@wallowa.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. To promote for-profit events, contact sales representative Jennifer Powell at jpowell@wallowa.com.



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The Northeast Oregon Wrestling Club will hold an informational meeting for parents of children 5 - 14 who may be interested in wrestling. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m., in the multi-purpose room at the Enterprise High School. Any questions, contact Matt McDowell, 541-398-0668.

Saturday, Oct. 24

Come play Bunco at Hurricane Creek Grange Hall. No ex-



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