

# Festival: 48-hour film dare

By Kathleen Ellyn  
Wallowa County Chieftain

In just six days, “film companies” made up of local friends and last-minute volunteers will have two days to make a film.

It’s the fifth year for the Ruby Peak Film Festival, Wallowa County’s local scramble in which filmmakers write, shoot and edit their own artistic creations in the 48 hours between Nov. 13-15.

Those original flicks can be made with cellphones, Grandma’s VHS camera, a digital camera with a film setting, or any other moving picture format.

The highly organized, or

seat-of-the-pants fliers, or merry band of pranksters, or perhaps heavily caffeinated auteurs should come to the kickoff meeting with an open mind and a great deal of flexibility. Some will already have a team, but others will be looking for volunteers to flesh out the team at the kickoff, 6:30 p.m. Nov. 13, at Lear’s Pub and Grill in Enterprise. So, if this sounds like fun, but you don’t have a team, come and volunteer for one — or prove you are down with the speedy concept and assemble a team of your own at the last possible moment.

Films will have a few things in common besides the short shooting schedule: Every

team will receive a line of dialogue, a character and a prop that must be in the film. Genres will then be drawn from a hat.

“That’s the random card for each team,” said co-director Luke Zwanziger of Enterprise. “Genres may be romance, science fiction, historical, war ... something for everyone.”

The completed film must be turned in at a predetermined location (to be announced) by 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15.

Filmmakers also will receive plenty of excellent advice, encouragement and information on how to find royalty-free music and other resources.

Zwanziger is a real fan of the event — so much so that even though he is now a co-director of the event along with Caroline Leone, of Joseph, he’s already taken the challenge himself and made a film. He just won’t enter it in the contest.

“I don’t feel like I can enter in an event I’m co-directing, but I love the format,” he said.

Zwanziger and Leone took over direction of the event from Blue Marble Arts (Debbie Shank and Kathy Sewell of Joseph) and used the momentum the original organizers created to line up more

great prizes for the winners of this year’s event.

“We’ve got a lot of great local sponsorships from businesses and people all over the county,” Zwanziger said. “We have more than \$2,000 in prizes. Awards will include video and audio software, gift certificates and more.”

Corporate sponsors for the festival include Sony Creative Software, Final Draft and Red Giant Software.

The films will be shown — free to viewers — on the big screen at the OK Theatre on Monday, Nov. 16. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and show starts at 7 p.m. Donations are welcome.

As usual, film fans who attend the show will vote for the People’s Choice.

Local sponsors include The Bookloft, Sugar Time Bakery, M. Crow and Co., Joseph Hardware, Sports Corral, The Sheep Shed, Cheyenne Cafe, ToZion, W.C. Marketplace, Stewart Jones Design, beecrowbee, Balanced Bodies, Copper Creek Merc., Heidi’s Gift Shoppe, Mad Mary and Company, Red Barn Veterinary, The Magic Garden and others.

For more information, visit [www.rubypeakfilmfest.com](http://www.rubypeakfilmfest.com).

# ‘An Afternoon with the Mayor’ scheduled

Enterprise Mayor Steve Lear will be hosting a bi-monthly meeting, “An Afternoon with the Mayor,” 3 to 5 p.m., on the second Sunday of every month starting Nov. 8.

The meeting will be held in the Tomas Building Conference Room, 309 S. River St., in Enterprise.

Lear said the purpose of the meetings is to get local residents more actively involved and to move their issues forward.

“Citizens can bring up anything they want to discuss, with the understanding that no action can be taken — that has to be taken by the entire council,” Lear said. “But at least I can listen to the concerns of the citizens and there are no subjects that will be off limits.”

Because citizens sometimes do not understand the limitations of City Council, Lear also will explain the form of government Enterprise has and how it works.

“I know people come to the council and hope their questions can be answered and their issues resolved immediately,” Lear said. “But no action can be taken by any one person —



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain  
**Mayor Steve Lear at his “day job” in Lears Pub and Grill.**

it has to be undertaken by the entire council and sometimes we have to get legal or other advice. I will answer them as best I can as it relates to existing policy. If I don’t know the answer, I’ll tell them I don’t know and see if I can find the answer.”

Coffee and water will be available at the meetings.



## Happy 80th Birthday Dick Shortridge

There will be an Open House at the Josephy Center in Joseph to celebrate his birthday.

Drop by anytime from 1:00 to 4:00 on Saturday, Nov. 7.

Wish him a Happy Birthday, have some cake and share any stories you might have!

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## Thank You

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all those people whose work and generosity made Susan Collett’s memorial service and celebration of life possible.

The events were beautiful, heartfelt, and they represented a culmination of much work and dedication to the memory of Susan. Again thank you all for your effort and generosity; and I appreciate so much what you all have done.

There are three special thanks to I would like to note: First to Kathy Drake whose thoughtfulness and tireless work in organizing Susan’s celebration of life made it a beautiful and sensitive event. Secondly to Susan Dobson for her energies in organizing the food and drink for the celebration plus her contribution of her culinary skills to that end. Thirdly I would like to thank the Wallowa Buddhist temple for making available their temple and grounds for Susan’s memorial service plus the time and effort reverend Meido and reverend Clairissa gave on Susan’s behalf.

Forever grateful,  
Sam Collet


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