

# Eat, drink, shop and visit Lostine

# YEARS



Kathleen Ellyn

It's been a great couple of months for summer businesses and restaurants.

Down in Lostine, Dave Cherry has opened his "museum cum antiques store" for the summer again and is welcoming tourists and locals alike. His white clapboard store is right on the main street (Highway 82) across from M. Crow Mercantile.

Cherry's several stores, including a newer 42-foot by 48-foot shop out back, are stocked to the rafters with well-organized and displayed collectibles, including tools, lunch boxes, cookie jars, still-in-the-box collectible toys, vinyl records, televisions from the 40s and more.

Treat yourself to a museum experience and come home with a wonderful item for your own personal collection.

He's open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday from June through September.

"I used to go longer, but I got older," Cherry quipped.

Don't forget to take a gander in the open lot between his main two stores and his storage building. There are some rusty agricultural machines in there and they are for sale as well.

• Just one block down (toward Wallowa) the former Lostine Community Store has morphed into another half-museum, half-collectibles store seasoned with vegetables and berries. Now called "Funk & Junk,"

the store boasts selections from Jeff and Melissa Nehls' collection of more than 80,000 pieces of war memorabilia, along with collectibles including glassware, movie posters and quality costume jewelry.

"Look around, we have everything, A to Z," Jeff said.

The Nehls accept consignments, so bring your quality collectibles in to see if they fit in the store.

They opened Memorial Day weekend and had a great opening and good weekends since.

So, now the Nehls have another job to add to their full-time jobs. Melissa, you may recall, owns the "Maid in Oregon" housekeeping service and is booked up. Jeff is logging 70 acres up Allen Canyon right now, used to work for Nez Perce Fisheries before that, and owned an antique store in Joseph before that.

The garden is still growing fresh vegetables and berries, too, and Jeff plans to make a New York-style vegetable handcart to display garden produce by fall.

Funk & Junk is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

• Meanwhile, down in Wallowa, another restaurant has popped up.

Main Street Grill moved three doors down from their former location, but remain right on the main street, and the new restaurant "Horseshoe Bar & Grill" took over their original spot.

Sisters Jessica Clary of Lostine and Melissa Keene of Enterprise thought they saw a need in Wallowa for another place to eat and hang out, so

they teamed up with their extensive customer service and cooking skills and opened July 14.

So far, they've got pool and darts for your hang-out pleasure and karaoke and cards are coming soon.

You may recall the restaurant space is divided into two rooms with family dining on one side and the bar and pool table on the other. The kitchen is pumping out a full menu: breakfast, lunch and dinner, with prices topping out at \$10.95 for a chicken fried steak breakfast and just \$8.25 for a one-third pound jalapeño burger. Dinner includes chicken, steaks and more, and there is a kid's menu.

There's also a full bar and draft and bottled beer.

The sisters have long-term restaurant business experience, having worked in past restaurants such as the Backwoods and Tomas and more current eateries such as the Glacier Grill.

This Saturday will be their grand opening and they expect to have a drink and food special, but were still discussing just what that would be when I visited them.

They've been busy since they opened, packing the place on their first day of business after only having posted the opening on Facebook — so it looks like they were right about Wallowa needing another spot. Their hours are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and the full bar opens at 11 a.m.

• Back in Enterprise the cat is out of the bag with regard to Lear's Pub and Grill on Main Street.

Yes, it is true that Kathy



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Antiques and Second Hand store owner Dave Cherry of Lostine stands in front of part of his collection of braces. "I've got about 80 on the wall and 80 more in those boxes."

and Steve Lear want to spend more time with their grandkids in Lewiston and they've leased the restaurant to Rachel Esquibel of Enterprise. Esquibel's request for a liquor license was approved at Enterprise City Council earlier this month.

Esquibel has no plans to immediately change things at the pub.

"The Learns have been there 13 years," she said. "I don't want to fix something that isn't broke."

Lear's clientele is very loyal and has expectations, so Steve taught her some of his signature recipes. She said she plans to keep those and branch out slowly.

Steve and Kathy Lear have not leased out their apartment

upstairs, but that's not out of the question, Steve said. For now, the Learns intend to drive back and forth to Lewiston for that all-important grandchild time while they explore their options.

• Dandelion Wines, straight across the street from Lear's Pub and Grill, also is adding some services: occasional guest speakers for their third Thursday tastings and the opportunity to lease the space for private parties. Check with Michael or Jody Berry at 541-263-5539.

## Health leaders to host town hall, barn dance

Wallowa County Chieftain

This month marks the 25th anniversary of both the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program and of Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) Family Medicine's rural rotation in Enterprise.

The programs together have touched Wallowa County in countless ways. The AHEC has brought programs like MedQuest and Girls in Science that have trained and mentored Wallowa County Youth to pursue health-focused careers. The AHEC Rural Community Health Clerkship and Oregon Rural Scholars rotations in Enterprise, and the OHSU rural residency program in Klamath Falls have brought to Wallowa County four primary care doctors — Dr. Caine, Dr. DeYoung, Dr. Powers and Dr. Sheahan.

To celebrate the anniversary these two successful programs, local health leaders are hosting a town hall meeting from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, July 23 at Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. Members of the Office of Rural Health board and staff, local and state lawmakers, and the Wallowa County community in general are invited to discuss ways to promote programs that support doctors coming to and living

in rural Oregon communities, and the building of the health care teams that support these doctors.

In 1990 Wallowa County was in trouble. Dr. Siebe and Dr. Euhus were among the few doctors in town. Dr. Siebe conducted a formal survey of doctors across the state and found a similar story in all of rural Oregon — doctors leaving or retiring, and communities in need. Dr. Euhus took these findings to the state legislature with a strong call to action. The legislature listened, and from that session came the creation of the AHEC program and a mandate to OHSU to train and retain primary care doctors

across the state.

Yet today we find ourselves in much the same place as we were 25 years ago. Wallowa County and other rural communities across the state are struggling to provide the solid primary care base that is needed to help keep communities healthy and thriving.

Immediately following the town hall, there will be a community barbecue and square dance from 5-10 p.m. at the Blue Barn Farm, 63327 Tenderfoot Valley Road in Joseph.

The event is spearheaded by Winding Waters Medical Clinic, with support from a variety of organizations including: Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU), North-

east Oregon Area Health Education Center (NEOAHEC), Wallowa Memorial Hospital, and the Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation.

For more information contact Keli Christman of Winding Waters at 541-426-4502 or keli@windingwatersclinic.org.

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• **Intercity Transportation** to La Grande Mon-Tues and Thursday Weekly ~ Cost \$5 each way. Free access for veterans medical appointments in La Grande.

• **Mealsite Bus** ~ providing transportation to Senior Center for lunch ~ Cost \$1 round trip.  
For public transportation ~ call to make a reservation 541-426-3840

• **Tuesday & Thursday Shopping Bus** provides transportation for shopping and errands throughout Wallowa County ~ Cost \$3 from Wallowa/Joseph, \$2 Enterprise only.

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