#### October 5, 2016 **A9**

## **Final Friday sizzles at Stockmans**

committed

to bringing

downtown

live music to

Enterprise venue

**By Steve Tool** 

Wallowa County Chieftain

Stockmans Lounge stuck

The restaurant and bar re-

The new open mic night is

cently opened in the space

formerly occupied by Lear's at

called Final Friday and will

take place the last Friday of

each month through April. The

debut event introduced new

performers to the Wallowa

County music scene as well as

some tried and true local acts.

every performance with equal

vigor, regardless of the genre

Unlike many open mics in

111 W Main St.

its toe into the local open mic

waters Friday night and man-

agers found it to their liking.

**Martin Doud** was the opening performer for Stockmans Lounge's **Final Friday** open mic night on Sept. 30. A large and enthusiastic crowd packed into the venue to peruse the new addition to the area's open mic scene.



bar/restaurants, the evening crowd remained engaged with the music while they still enjoyed the Stockmans culinary fare. The energetic audience filled every seat in the joint, and to their credit, cheered

Martin Doud, recently re-New ownership turned to the Wallowa Valley after a hiatus of several years, served as the show's opening act. Doud reeled off four songs to raucous audience applause. "I really appreciate the op-

portunity to perform," he said. "It was my first time in front of an audience in about five years."

Other performers included local stalwarts Jezebel's Mother and Sam Warr. A surprising amount of new talent performed, including Doud, who was followed by Lynda Morrison, recently of Medford. Morrison, accompanied by Jay Connolly, wowed the audience with a stunning rendition of T-Bone Walker's "Call it Stormy Monday" and several other blues staples.

One of the more unique performers of the evening was another recent Wallowa County transplant, Nicole Mc-Cutcheon. Her sassy brand of originals had the audience eating from her hand. She later said that she moved to Wallowa County just for the purpose of furthering her music career.

Unlike many local open mics that wane significantly after two hours, 9 p.m. saw still more hopefuls signing in to perform. In all, at least a

dozen different musicians hit the stage, likely a local open mic record.

Stockmans owner Rachel Esquibel gave the Final Friday a two-thumbs-up endorsement

"I consider Final Friday as an astonishing success," she said. "The turnout was great, especially for our first event. It was beyond expectations we were thrilled."

Esquibel's sons, Andrew Esquibel and Sam Warr, conspired with local musician Jordan Maslach for the open mic idea.

"One day I came in, and there was a poster on the window, and I said, 'I guess we're having an open mic,"" Rachel Esquibel said with a laugh.

Maslach served as the show's emcee and also provided the PA equipment.

Stockmans is working toward hosting live bands in the future.

"It's not going to happen right away though," Esquibel said.

The venue also will host the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance's 10th season of Tunesmith Night, a monthly showcase of original music.

The series opener takes place Saturday, Oct. 8 and features Tara K Howe, Tom Drake and Mike Mallory.





Wednesday, Oct. 5 · Liz Vice, 7 p.m. at the OK Theatre. theoldok.com

Friday, Oct. 7 • Open mic, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity

Saturday, Oct. 8 • Tunesmith Night, featuring Tara K Howe and Tom Drake, and Mike Mallory, 6 p.m. at Stockman's Lounge.

Sunday, Oct. 9 • Open mic night, 4-6 p.m. at the Josephy Center with emcee Ted Hays. josephy.org You Knew Me When, 7

p.m. at Terminal Gravity Saturday, Oct. 15

#### Steve Tool/Chieftain

### **Tunesmith Night returns**

The Wallowa Valley Music Alliance is set to kick off its 10th season of Tunesmith Night, a monthly showcase of original music.

The series opener takes place Saturday, Oct. 8 at Stockman's Lounge, 111 W. Main St. Enterprise and features Tara K Howe, Tom Drake and Mike Mallory.

Tara K Howe is a singer-songwriter living in Moscow, Idaho.

Originating from folk and crossing many genres, Tara has a powerful voice, and often haunting lyrics, backed by a strong resonant and rhythmic guitar.

Tom Drake of Moscow, Idaho, was born in the ancestral stomping grounds of

Merle Haggard, John Steinbeck and Woody Guthrie, and raised all over the USA. Drake crafts songs to leap the canyon between the heart and head, the poet and roadhouse, the grapes of wrath, the red mud Mississippi back roads and the old West.

For Mike Mallory, the song is the thing. Mallory has been playing music professionally since age 15. That would be since, 1968. Early on, he discovered the songs of Bob Dylan, Townes Van Zandt, Mississippi John Hurt and realized the songs were what spoke to him. He is comfortable strapping on his Telecaster and turning up to 11 or finger picking his acoustic trying to imitate

Mississippi John.

played.

"That is the beauty of the players my age, we did not realize there was a division between acoustic and electric music," said Mallory, who is a member of the La Grande alt-country/Americana band The Wasteland Kings, along with son Kris Mallory, who is lead vocalist and main songwriter for the group. This is Mallory's third appearance at Tunesmith Night.

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 Bullets & Belles, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity

Thursday, Oct. 20 HoneyHoney, Wallowa Resources fundraiser, 7 p.m. at the OK Theatre. theoldok.com Old-Time Community Dance, 7-10 p.m. at Odd Fellows Hall

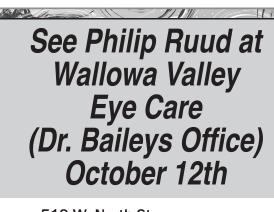
Friday, Nov. 4 Open mic, 7 p.m. at Terminal Gravity

Thursday, Nov. 10 Portland Cello Project WLT Fundraiser, 7 p.m. at the OK Theatre. theoldok.com

Sunday, Nov. 13 Open mic night, 4-6 p.m. at the Josephy Center with emcee Ted Hays. josephy.org

Friday, Nov. 25 · Brady Goss, 6 p.m. at the OK Theatre. theoldok.com

Please submit Entertainment Calendar event *information to editor*(*a*) wallowa.com



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