

Chautauqua blows in to Enterprise



A group of approximately 25 performers spent much of the day in Enterprise on Friday, raising the spirits of young and old. The New Old Time Chautauqua group marched through downtown at noon and organized a series of informal performance classes throughout much of the afternoon. Their stay in Enterprise concluded with a performance at OK Theatre on Friday evening. Above right, Jabali Trippsmith of the New Old Chautauqua bounces his way through downtown Enterprise Saturday on these unique spring-loaded skis. At left, Roderick Kimball and Linnea Wik join the musicians who marched into Enterprise as part of the New Old Time Chautauqua. In addition to performers, the traveling entertainers included jugglers, acrobats and storytellers.

Photos by Paul Wahl/Chieftain

Bronze, Blues and Brews is Aug. 11-12

Festival hopes to attract ‘true blues’ crowd

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

As late summer approaches, the call of the Delta Blues is being heard across the Wallowa Valley as the 21st annual Bronze Blues and Brews Festival gets ready to wail Aug. 11-12 at Joseph City Park. Interim festival director Mike Straw is upbeat about this year’s selection of some of the finest blues the nation has to offer. For this year, the artists selected are people who perform music closer to traditional blues than some of the festival’s past acts. “It’s a little bit risky, but we’re attracting some attention from the ‘true blues’ crowd,” Straw said. “I’ve gotten any number of calls from people who are coming because it’s a real blues program, and these are some top-notch guys.” Included in the lineup are winners and nominees of high-profile blues awards including bassist Anni Piper, guitar player Albert Castiglia, singer Rae Gordon, harp

player Sugar Ray, pianist Victor Wainwright and one-man-band Brody Buster. Straw said the festival is produced for the benefit of the community. Proceeds go to a number of community endeavors, including the schools. “I was happy when I heard from the Wallowa schools program that they were grateful for our donation,” Straw said. “I was happy when I heard from the Joseph playground people that our donation two years ago was fundamental in helping them leverage other grants,” director Shaw added. “I was happy to get a large envelope in the mail the other day from the Joseph Charter School art teacher Jennifer Connolly thanking us and sending pictures signed by kids of all the stuff they’d done.” Straw talked of how the community and business benefits from the festival as around 1,500 people attend the two-day event. “This is a relatively low-impact thing,”



Straw said. “People come, then they go away, but they still spend money on cheeseburgers and in gift shops and book stores.” Around 20 microbrews will be offered in the beer tent and works from local foundry Valley Bronze will be on display and for sale. A number of food vendors will also set up shop. Even with all the benefits the festival brings to the county, Straw said that for him it’s still about the music. “We’re just trying to bring a true and American art form to the county and expose people to it,” he said. Tickets are \$35 for the Friday jam in the park and Saturday’s all-day show. Kids 10 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at www.bronzebluesbrews.com or locally at Joseph Hardware or the Sports Corral in Joseph or The Bookloft in Enterprise. Tickets at the gate are \$40 and tickets for Friday jam in the park only are \$20.

IN BRIEF

Magic Garden Day Camp set

Magic Garden Day Camp will be held 10 a.m. through Friday, Aug. 4 at The Place next to Joseph United Methodist Church, 301 South Lake St. The camp is for kids, offering gardening projects, art projects, cooking and more. The mission of the sponsors is to donate fresh organic produce to feed the community as well as educate youth through hands-on learning in the garden, greenhouse and kitchen. To register, email jumc@eoni.com.

Pomona Grange sets fundraiser

Wallowa County Pomona Grange No. 22 will offer cold egg salad, chicken and roast pork at the Cloverleaf Hall on the campus of Wallowa County Fair for \$5 on Aug. 7-9. Money raised will go to the Wallowa County Red Cross. The Grange will be selling homemade pies and ice cream followed by presentation of its community service awards, one for Grange members and one for nonmembers.

ROMBACH

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So, easy money. On the flip side, if you have the day off you will need to report to work when the sun comes back out of the shadow at around 10:27. Confusing, I know, but these are planetary forces at work so we mortals just have to abide. Here’s a few eclipse viewing ideas. Throw an eclipse party with paper mâché planets hanging around your yard. Kids love paper mâché, so this is a wonderful opportunity to get youngsters interested in the solar system. Personally, I’m going to arrange three sacred objects in a triangle and stand in the middle, hoping for infinite power when the last gleam of intensified sunlight strikes the array. The sun will glint off the immense chrome bumper of my 1967 Buick Electra, bounce off the fake crystal atop a lampshade I got from Soroptomist, then zing over to my framed and autographed photo of Willy Nelson, at which point my hands should start to glow with St. Elmo’s fire, and I’ll get Jedi super powers to move things just by pointing at them. I mean, you never know until you try. Please keep in mind that looking at the sun is extremely not good for your eyeballs. This is because the sun is basically a giant welder in the sky. Basic physics. So you need at least SPF 1,000 lenses for even a sideways glance at a burning star or a welding helmet rated for suns. You can get your hands on eclipse watching specs at Wallowolowallogy in Joseph, Enterprise and Wallowa libraries, Wallowa Valley Eye Care over by Safeway and Edie has eclipse glasses at Gypsy Java. Or get a proper welding helmet from Stangel’s, Norton’s and anywhere quality welding helmets are sold. Don’t fool around with this, especially for kids. Matter of fact, everybody go look up safe eclipse viewing tips online before this all goes down. So mark Aug. 21 on your calendar and enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing this special day-night-day. And if you need help moving anything heavy, I’m your guy anytime after 10:27 on Aug. 21.

Jon Rombach is an astronomer and prognosticator for the Chieftain.

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WALLOWA COUNTY Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

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MONDAYS 7 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	MONDAYS 6 p.m. Grace and Dignity (Womans Mtg) Joseph United Methodist Church 301 S. Lake St., Church Basement
TUESDAYS 12-1 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	WEDNESDAYS 12 p.m. Grace and Dignity (Womans Mtg) 301 S. Lake St., Church Basement
7-8 p.m. Enterprise Group (Big Bk Study) 113.5 E Main St.	
WEDNESDAYS 7 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	
THURSDAYS 12-1 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	WALLOWA
7 p.m. All Saints (Mens Mtg) 113.5 E Main St.	SUNDAYS 7 p.m. Wallowa Assembly of God Church 205 S Alder St.
FRIDAYS 7 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	
SATURDAYS 7 p.m. Enterprise Group 113.5 E Main St.	



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