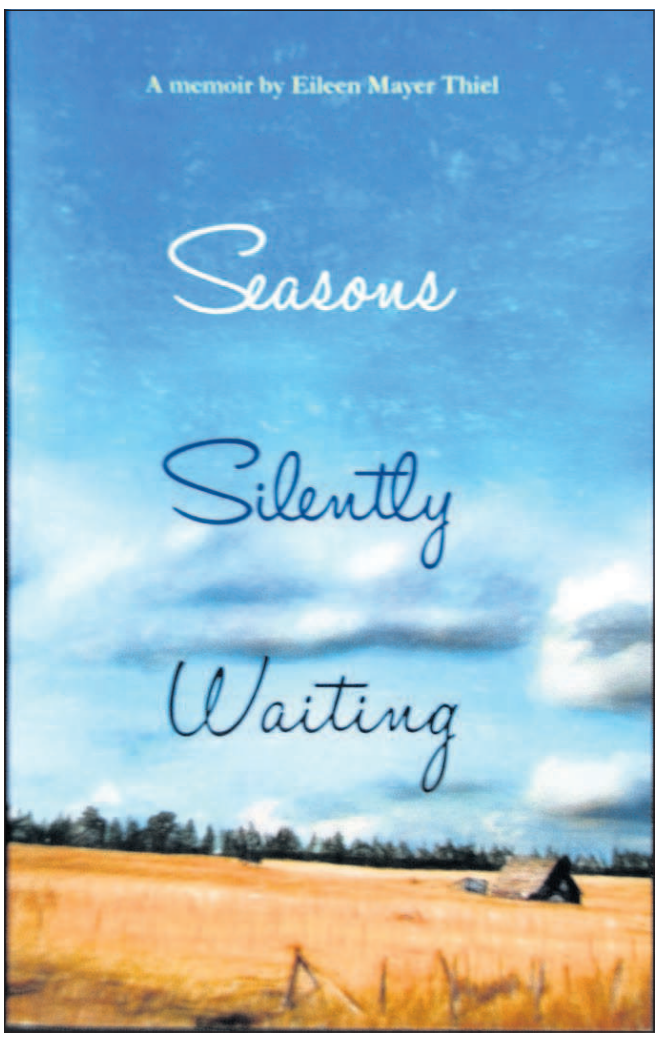

Local author earns award

Eileen Thiel self-published 'Seasons Silently Waiting' in 2016

By Paul Wahl
Wallowa County Chieftain

When Eileen Thiel published her book "Seasons Silently Waiting" in 2016, winning an award was the furthest thing from her mind.

She learned recently that her work is to receive a Women Writing the West, 2017 WILLA Award for nonfiction.

The organization is a group of writers who set their work in the West, based in Colorado. The nonprofit supports authors and other professionals in promoting the contributions made by women to the history, culture and growth of the American West.

The book is a memoir of Thiel's first 10 years of marriage in rural Idaho.

Eileen Thiel

"I was raised in California, so the move to the farm was culture shock," Thiel said. "The book includes some of the more unusual incidents from that time and the things I had to learn."

She originally intended her writing as a legacy for her family, but it became a book of discovery.

"It was my way of understanding why I did what I did," she said.

Thiel, of Enterprise, had volunteered with Fishtrap for a number of years and learned how to write by attending classes there.

"We're so excited for Eileen and happy that she was recognized by WILLA for "Seasons Silently Waiting," an honor she very much deserves," said Shannon McNerney, executive director of Fishtrap. "Eileen has been a part of the Fishtrap community for many years as a featured Fireside reader and a past recipient of a Summer Fishtrap Fellowship."

Thiel has shared her love for writing with her granddaughters. One of them, Jai Soots, served as technical coordinator for Thiel's self-publishing effort. She designed the cover and helped format the pages.

"I'm so proud of her," Soots said of her grandmother.

It's rare for a self-published book to win a WILLA literary award, according to Doris Baker, 2017 awards chair.

" 'Seasons Silently Waiting' was judged against books from established publishing houses and was named one of two finalists," Baker said. "Although her book is not the only self-published book to win a WILLA Award, she and her work are to be celebrated for this high achievement."

Part of the self-publishing process is promoting and selling the product.

Thiel said sales have been going well. The book is in its fourth printing for a total of roughly 500 copies. Shortly she expects to begin a sales push into La Grande and Union County.

The WILLA Award will be presented at the Women Writing the West Conference in Tuscon, Ariz., in late October. Thiel will also have the opportunity to read from her book for those gathered for the conference.

Family meal night planned

Residents of Wallowa County are invited to celebrate a family meal night Sept. 25. The event is sponsored by Building Healthy Families.

Several restaurants are offering incentives for families to gather, including Heavenly's, La Laguna, Little Bear and Video Buffs.

"Sharing a family meal is good for the spirit, the brain and the health of all family members," according to Jessi Howard, prevention coordinator for Building Healthy Families.

IN BRIEF

Day of Peace celebration set

Josephy Center in Joseph will host the Wallowa County gathering to observe the National Day of Peace 6 p.m. Sept. 21.

Activities begin with a potluck dinner, beverages and tableware provided. A program will follow at 7 p.m. with Ingrid cook, Seth Kinzie, Glenn France, Walter Smith and Dylan Edwards.

The event is celebrated in countries around the world.

Wallowa festival coming Oct. 19

Wallowa Parent Action Committee will host a fall festival for all families in the county 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19 in the Beth Johnson Room of the Wallowa Elementary. In its second year, organizers are expanding the scope of the festival.

Last year's event featured a caramel apple bar, a mad scientist and slime-making and a fortune teller.

Info: 541-805-0096.

Students will gather for prayer event

Annual 'See You at the Pole' is set Sept. 27

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Students around the globe will gather around their school flagpoles and pray for their school, communities, nations and the world Sept. 27.

The gathering will be the 27th anniversary of the international, nondenominational event called "See You at the Pole" and is part of the Global Week of Student Prayer world wide, Sept. 24-30.

The week is dedicated to prayer and the student-initiated launch of Bible clubs and student ministries on their campuses.

Seventh through 12th grade students in Wallowa County can learn about and prepare for the week and events by attending an All-County Youth Rally at Enterprise Christian Church, set for 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24.

"The rally helps students get to know each other and to plan the event," said youth pastor Matthew Holmes of Enterprise Christian Church. "The ideal is that events are entirely student driven and do not involve adults."

The rally is open to students of any denomination and from any area school, including home-schooled students.

"Homeschool kids may gather at the flagpole of their nearest school – and they'll know others there because of meeting them at the rally," Holmes said.

"Some students will not have known about the event, and by attending the rally, they will have the opportunity to learn and decide how they want to participate."

There are no rules about what a student must pray for — each student will pray as he or she sees fit.

"They'll pray about whatever God puts on their hearts," Holmes said.

The Wallowa County rally, which will include an evening of group prayer, preparation for events, games and activities, is sponsored by Wallowa Assembly of God, Wallowa County Young Life, Rooted Youth Ministry and Enterprise Christian Church Youth.

Students who cannot attend the Sept. 24 rally can access planning materials at www.syatp.com or visit myseeyouatthepole on Facebook.

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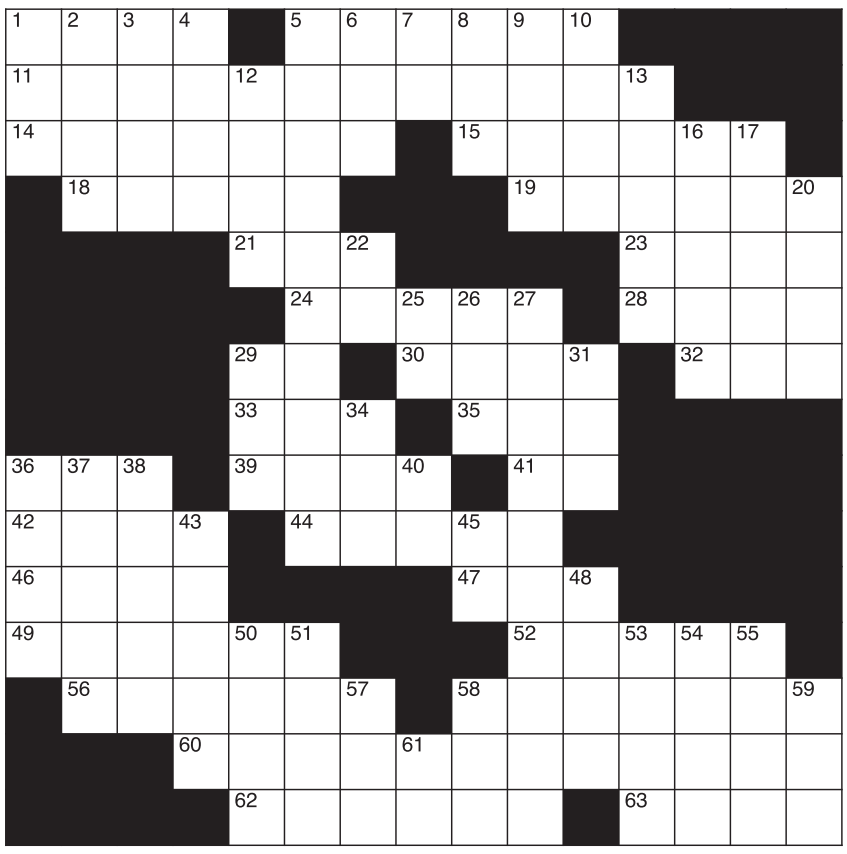

CLUES ACROSS
1. Defunct social networking service
5. Facial expressions
11. Forebears
14. A portable gun
15. Decrees
18. Resin obtained from tropical trees
19. One who divines the future
21. River in Oregon
23. Norse god of thunder
24. It's on the lawn
28. Speaks
29. Polish beer
30. Ethnic group in Laos
32. Insecticide
33. Surface of the ground
35. Third-party access
36. Senior officer
39. Makes a living with difficulty
41. Expression of sympathy
42. Former U.S. president
44. Passover feast and ceremony
46. Wild sheep of northern Africa
47. Pouch
49. Public buildings
52. Type of cuisine
56. "Hotel California" rockers
58. Universal
60. Eloquently
62. Scantily
63. Japanese alcoholic drink

CLUES DOWN
1. Kilogram force (abbr.)
2. Lake __, one of the Great
3. Seahawks safety Thomas
4. Take a __
5. Gazelles
6. One's mother
7. Iridium
8. Comics writer Stan
9. Within
10. Excite
12. Long-legged gazelle
13. Leaves
16. African nation
17. System of handcraft-based education
20. Formerly (archaic)
22. Argon
25. Equally
26. Standardized test
27. Not part of
29. Midway between east and southeast
31. Native American tribe
34. Marlins infielder Gordon
36. Places to relax
37. Phonology units
38. Bastard wing
40. South Dakota
43. Lake in Uganda
45. Spanish be
48. Town in Galilee
50. Mediation counsel
51. Hair-like structure
53. Domesticated animals
54. Region
55. He cured polio
57. Title of respect
58. Carpet design
59. Strongly alkaline solution
61. Cerium

Church Directory

Church of Christ
502 W. 2nd Street • Wallowa
541-398-2509
Worship at 11 a.m.
Mid-week
Bible Study 7 p.m.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise
NE 3rd & Main St
541-426-3439
Worship Service
Sunday 9:30am

St. Katherine's Catholic Church
Fr. Francis Akano
301 E. Garfield Enterprise
Mass Schedule
Tues-Fri 8:00 am
Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am
(541)426-4008
stkatherineenterprise.org
St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am
All are welcome

Summit Church
Gospel Centered Community
Service time: 10:30 am
Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise
541-426-2150
www.summitchurchoregon.org
Summit Church

Joseph United Methodist Church
3rd & Lake St. • Joseph
Pastor Cherie Dearth
Phone: 541-432-3102
Sunday Worship Service
10:00 am
JosephUMC.org

Faith Lutheran Church
409 W. Main
Enterprise, Oregon
Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm
Bible Study
2nd & 4th Thursdays - 11 am
LCMS
(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Enterprise Christian Church
85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449
Worship at 9 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship at 6 p.m.
(nursery at A.M. services)
"Loving God & One Another"
David Bruce, Sr. - Minister

Christ Covenant Church
Pastor Terry Tollefson
Church Office: 541-263-0505
Family Prayer: 9:15am
Worship Service: 10am
723 College Street
Lostine

Lostine Presbyterian Church
Discussion Group 9:30 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM
Childrens program during service
Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com
541.398.0597
Hwy 82, Lostine
Stephen Kliewer, Minister

Enterprise Community Congregational Church
The Big Brown Church
with an open door
Pastor Archie Hook
Sunday Worship 11am
Bible Study 9:30am
Ark Angels Children's Program
Ages 4-6th grade, 11am
Nursery for children 3 & under
301 NE First St. • Enterprise, OR
Find us on Facebook! 541.426.3044

Wallowa Assembly of God
606 West Hwy 82
Wallowa, Oregon
541-886-8445
Sunday School • 9:30
Worship Service • 10:45
Pastor Tim Barton
wallowaassemblyofgod.com

Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School
305 Wagner (near the Cemetery)
P.O. Box N. Enterprise, OR 97828
541-426-3751 Church
541-426-8339 School
Worship Services
Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon
Pastor Jonathan DeWeber

Winding Waters
A Non-Profit Community Health Center

OHSU Resident
Ryan Manns,
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Hours:
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Saturday
9:00am to 1:00pm
603 Medical Parkway
Enterprise, OR 97828

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Hailie began her career with Bennett Insurance Agency as a Customer Service Representative and within the last few years she has grown into a successful agent. She is excited about her new endeavor and looks forward to representing Wallowa County and the surrounding areas.
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