



THREE minutes with ...



KEITH KIRTS
WRITER AND IMNAHA LIBRARIAN

Keith Kirts, 75, has lived in Imnaha for 10 years. He says he came accidentally, but he was looking for it — he just didn't know Imnaha was "it."

He had been working at the University of California — Los Angeles in the geology department and he kept getting things across his desk that said water would be the next big issue in the world. So, he and some like-minded friends started looking for places that had good water. And Imnaha has good water.

He grew up in Marion, Ohio, and went to Ohio State and Columbia College of Art and Design and then approximately 50 years of various jobs unfolded. He's done a lot of things, including carpentering in the movie business.

Since moving to Imnaha he's turned that half decade of work life into 20 novels, (detective fiction, science fiction) eight or nine of which are published.

He likes to plant trees, a couple of fruit trees each year on his property right on the Imnaha River.

He volunteers with the new First Responder Group that was just formed in Imnaha and works four hours a week as Librarian for the Imnaha School District.

He's a great reader, according to the kids and teacher Shari Warnock, and really makes the stories come alive.

Q. What do you think you've learned from Wallowa County?

A. I've learned how to grow grapes; how to can food; play cards with my neighbors most nights; learned how to clean out my chimney; get wood; everything here is different. You really have to take care of yourself here, much more than in the cities. And the truth is, it is healthier. I just heard a program the other night that said living out in nature makes you live 10 years longer than in the city.

Q. How important is it to volunteer when you live in a small town?

A. I think it's real important because we don't have a fire department, it takes an hour for the ambulance to get here — and it really does take an hour for the ambulance to get here. People down here help each other all the time. If someone moves there are always 10 or 12 people helping them, just because, just because that's how it works down here.

Q. You're a librarian and writer — what's a book you'd recommend?

A. One really good book is "1491," the story of the Americas the year before Columbus got here. It's an awesome book. My favorite to read to the kids is usually a Dr. Seuss book. The kids, themselves, check out the Curious George books over and over again.



Theresa Martinez, early learning coordinator for the Eastern Oregon Community Based Service Hub, reads to a group of kindergarteners at Building Healthy Families in Enterprise Oct. 3 as part of a kickoff for Storytime Oregon program. Forty-eight students participated, each receiving books to take home with them.

Paul Wahl/Chieftain

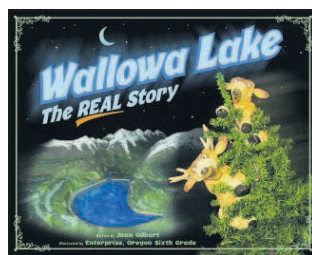
Local students enjoy start of 'Storytime Oregon' program

Kindergarten students are part of statewide literacy effort

Nearly 50 of Wallowa County's kindergarteners gathered Oct. 3 at Building Healthy Families in Enterprise for the kickoff of Storytime Oregon.

The program aims to celebrate reading and writing, according to Building Healthy Families executive director Maria Weer.

"Storytime Oregon provides an opportunity for Oregon's kindergartners to meet with local authors, connect with local volunteers and start thinking about the future," she said. "Wallowa County's class



"Wallowa Lake" was written by Joan Gilbert.

of 2030 was the first to participate in this event."

Author Joan Gilbert read from her book, "Wallowa Lake - The Real Story," then the children formed small groups to read books with volunteer readers.

Children chose a book to take home and spent time coloring before posing for a group photo and eating ice cream.

The Eastern Oregon Early Learning Hub helped sponsor the project.

Storytime is linked to Oregon's 40-40-20 goal by 2025 — 40 percent of students to receive a bachelor's degree or higher; 40 percent of students to receive an associate degree or certificate; and the remaining 20 percent to earn a high school diploma.

Weer said Storytime builds awareness and shared responsibility for ensuring that every child in Oregon is a proficient reader by the third grade.

Created in collaboration with communities across Oregon, it draws attention to the power of words and language in building literacy and creates easy ways families can help their children succeed.

THE BOOKLOFT AND SKYLIGHT GALLERY

Finding books is our specialty

541.426.3351 • 107 E. Main • Enterprise • www.bookloftoregon.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18					19				
20				21	22				23				
		24		25			26						
27	28	29		30			31			32	33	34	
35		36				37				38			
39				40					41				
42				43				44					
45				46				47			48		
		49				50				51			
52	53	54			55				56		57	58	59
60				61				62		63			
64				65						66			
67				68						69			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Syrian city
5. Secret collection
10. Mother
14. Type of radar (abbr.)
15. Trio
16. Jelly-like algae substance
17. Malaysian coastal city
18. ___ Christmas!
19. Bleak
20. Late Republic Roman poet
22. Supervises flying
23. Long, low sounds
24. Seven children born at once
27. Tyrion Lannister's nickname
30. Moon crater
31. Concealed
32. Woman (French)
35. Shipped
37. Babies need one
38. Two
39. Book of maps
40. A partner to cheese
41. Coastal region of China
42. Town in Czech Republic
43. Peter Griffin's daughter
44. Men proud of their masculinity
45. One-time Chinese dynasty
46. Not pleased
47. Mary ___, cosmetics
48. Midway between east and southeast
49. Reflected
52. Derived from
55. US Treasury title (abbr.)
56. Spiritual leader
60. Dismounted
61. Isaac's mother (Bib.)
63. Southern constellation
64. Not often found
65. Extremely angry
66. Individual article
67. They congregate at hives
68. Regenerate
69. Plaster

CLUES DOWN

1. "Mad Men" actor Jon
2. Samoan capital
3. Singer Anthony
4. Sign of the Zodiac
5. Short-term memory
6. Larcenies
7. Side-neck turtle
8. Blissful
9. ___, you!
10. Species of macaque
11. North-central Indian city
12. Common street name
13. Weaponry
21. Counsels
23. ___ student: doctor-to-be
25. A bachelor has one
26. Women's ___ movement
27. Leaders
28. Chinese sea goddess
29. Caps of mushrooms
32. Papier-___, art material
33. Hmong
34. Uneven
36. Resinous secretion
37. Pocketbook
38. Political action committee
40. Health care for the aged
41. Metro Goldwyn ___: film company
43. A gossip
44. Where wrestlers work
46. ___ Squad
47. Self-defense
49. Muslim brigands
50. Saudi Arabian island
51. Goliath's foe
52. Hurtful remark
53. Wings
54. Beget
57. Second Greek letter
58. Blue mold cheese
59. Unstressed-stressed
61. Title of respect
62. Chop or cut

Church Directory

<p>Church of Christ</p> <p>502 W. 2nd Street • Wallowa 541-398-2509</p> <p>Worship at 11 a.m. Mid-week Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Patrick's Episcopal Church</p> <p>100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise NE 3rd & Main St</p> <p>541-426-3439 Worship Service Sunday 9:30am</p>
<p>St. Katherine's Catholic Church</p> <p>Fr. Francis Akano 301 E. Garfield Enterprise</p> <p>Mass Schedule Tues-Fri 8:00 am Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am (541)426-4008 stkatherinecenterprise.org St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am All are welcome</p>	<p>Summit Church</p> <p>Gospel Centered Community Service time: 10:30 am Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise 541-426-2150 www.summitchurchoregon.org</p>
<p>Joseph United Methodist Church</p> <p>3rd & Lake St. • Joseph Pastor Cherie Dearth Phone: 541-432-3102</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>JosephUMC.org</p>	<p>Faith Lutheran Church</p> <p>409 W. Main Enterprise, Oregon</p> <p>Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm</p> <p>Bible Study 2nd & 4th Thursdays - 11 am LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)</p>
<p>Enterprise Christian Church</p> <p>85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449</p> <p>Worship at 9 a.m. Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship at 6 p.m. (nursery at A.M. services)</p> <p>"Loving God & One Another" David Bruce, Sr. - Minister</p>	<p>Christ Covenant Church</p> <p>Pastor Terry Tollefson Church Office: 541-263-0505</p> <p>Family Prayer: 9:30 am Sunday School: 10:00 am Worship Service: 11:00 am</p> <p>723 College Street Lostine</p>
<p>Lostine Presbyterian Church</p> <p>Discussion Group 9:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM</p> <p>Childrens program during service Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com</p> <p>541.398.0597 Hwy 82, Lostine Stephen Klierwer, Minister</p>	<p>Enterprise Community Congregational Church</p> <p>The Big Brown Church with an open door Pastor Archie Hook Sunday Worship 11am Bible Study 9:30am</p> <p>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</p>
<p>Wallowa Assembly of God</p> <p>606 West Hwy 82 Wallowa, Oregon 541-886-8445</p> <p>Sunday School • 9:30 Worship Service • 10:45 Pastor Tim Barton wallowaassemblyofgod.com</p>	<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School</p> <p>305 Wagner (near the Cemetery) P.O. Box N. Enterprise, OR 97828 541-426-3751 Church 541-426-8339 School</p> <p>Worship Services Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon Pastor Jonathan DeWeber</p>

Miss Vicki's Peacock Spa

Pedicures & Full Service Salon

541.263.2455
003 S. Mill Street | Joseph, OR

Winding Waters
A Non-Profit Community Health Center

OHSU Resident
Claire Montaigne,
September 26th - November 2nd

Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday
9:00am to 1:00pm
603 Medical Parkway
Enterprise, OR 97828

FRIENDS OF THE OPERA HOUSE

present

The Addams Family
A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

October 13th - 31st
Tickets on sale now!
541-663-6324
ElginOperaHouse.com