



Spring Fling flung



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

Todd and MacKenzie Rodgers and their sons, Weston, left, and Carson spend a few minutes learning about robotics during the first-ever Wallowa Resources Spring Fling Dance May 18 at Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise. The tiny robots follow the path the children draw. The event featured live music, snacks and raffles.



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

John Raines and his fellow musicians who comprise "Shot in the Dark" entertained for the Spring Fling Dance.

ER drill finds the kinks



Paul Wahl/Chieftain

EMS paramedic Tracy Ivy (yellow vest), nurse Amy Mork; Emergency Room Medical Director Dr. Gary Zeigler; and nurse Andie Lueders encircle the "child," who is a high-tech mannequin.

Wallowa Memorial Hospital will be even better prepared for its next emergency room trauma patient, thanks to its participation May 18 with the Idaho Simulation Network in a simulated pediatric trauma case involving a five-year-old boy ejected from the car he was riding in with his pregnant mother.

"The goal is to improve communication, reduce chaos and confusion, and create clear and standard protocols so each member of the emergency team knows exactly what to do," said Marion Constable, Director of the Idaho Simulation Network Outreach Program.

The emergency room trauma team under the direction of emergency room physician Dr. Gary Zeigler was already ahead of most Critical Access Hospitals Constable has seen.

"Dr. Zeigler and (education and med-surg manager) Teri Judd have done an outstanding job, and are far ahead of most Critical Access Hospitals in how to respond effectively," said Constable, who oversaw the exercise.

Andie Lueders, trauma nurse coordinator and Amy Mork, Advanced Cardiac Life Support instructor and soon to be trauma nurse instructor, were also involved.

One thing Constable noticed when she first arrived at the emergency room was the Broselow Strip hanging in clear view and easily accessible. The strip is color-coded and is laid next to a child/ It shows the height of a child according to color.

A cabinet is similarly color-coded by drawer, so a nurse can grab the necessary equipment in the right size.

"Many hospitals have that strip in a drawer or basket and someone has to go looking for it," said Constable.

The simulation was comprehensive, and started at the scene of the "accident," staged at the corner of Fish Hatchery Rd and Alder Slope Road, where a dispatched ambulance found the mother,

played by real life local mom Linnea Hinton, and "Charlie," played by a high-tech mannequin designed specifically for medical simulations.

Paramedics Michelle Musia and Tracy Ivy arrived at the scene and found Charlie moaning on the grass and a frantic mother kneeling next to him. After securing Charlie -- who was voiced from a nearby van by an adult acting like a typical youngster might respond -- whimpering, complaining of pain, asking for reassurances from his mom. He was placed in the ambulance and taken to the emergency room.

There, the ER trauma team went to work.

"In the old way of doing things, a doctor or nurse would run out to meet the ambulance, and there would be a lot of noise and chaos as the ER staff tried to figure out what needed to be done, and then jumped into action," said Constable. "We teach a protocol where the EMS crew brings the patient in, the team gets the patient off the gurney onto the table, and the team is given the chance to fully hear from the paramedic on the status of the

patient before care begins."

Constable was impressed with Wallowa Memorial Hospital response.

"Here, roles were clearly lined out for nursing staff, and any other technicians that might be needed from radiology or lab. We are really just fine-tuning here, and making sure everything is as tightly choreographed as possible when a real emergency hits."

Wallowa Memorial was one of only three Critical Access Hospitals in Oregon selected to participate in the simulation.

"We're always trying to find ways to improve," said Dr. Zeigler, who spearheaded the application process. He joined Wallowa Memorial full time last December after

working at Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande.

"It was really valuable to practice a pediatric trauma situation, since we don't get very many," said Judd. After the debriefing, Judd said they learned "what we did well, where we can improve and how we can make our whole trauma response system work at the highest possible level."

After the pediatric trauma exercise was completed, the group gathered to debrief, enjoy a short lunch and get back to work with a second simulation, this time involving the mother of Charlie, who was 8½ months pregnant. In this scenario, she needed an emergency C-section.



Marion Constable, Director of the ISN Outreach Program, explains the Broselow color-coded tape. When laid out next to a child, it shows emergency staff by color what size the child is. A cabinet with each drawer marked by color contains all the right-sized emergency instruments and tools appropriate for that sized child.

IN BRIEF

Writing sessions planned in June

Eric Greenwell will present a four-week writing workshop Wednesday evenings in June at Fishtrap. "Naming the Silence" welcomes writers of all genres, experience and encourages discoveries in any form.

Greenwell is a conservationist, writer and writing teacher. Recipient of Writing in the Wild and Centrum Writers' Conference fellowships, he was the 2016-2017 PEN/Margery Davis Boyden Wilderness Writing Resident. "Naming the Silence" runs 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Fishtrap in Enterprise. Seating is limited to 12. Register at Fishtrap.org or call 541-426-3623.



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Fishtrap snags \$10,000 grant

National Endowment for the Arts has awarded an Art Works grant of \$10,000 to Fishtrap for the Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers. The money supports projects that focus on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the

AAUW provides scholarships

Natalie Gorham of Joseph, Eliza Irish of Enterprise, Teagan Miller of Wallowa and Georgia Falk of the Alternative High School have earned \$100

arts and/or the strengthening of communities through the arts.




The 31st Summer Fishtrap Gathering takes place July 9-15, 2018 at Wallowa Lake.

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Ray Yurkewycz
Executive Director, Mount St. Helens Institute

Ray has been with the Institute since 2011 and loves to share his enthusiasm for all things Mount St. Helens. Previously, Ray was a biologist on the mountain, interacting with creatures as diverse as shrews, salamanders, trout and trees.

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