

Chef

Bryce Leggett was born in Seattle in 1987 to Ame and Rocky Leggett. He is the third of four siblings. The entire family moved to Wallowa in 1990 when mom, Ame, got a job with Coleman and Chrisman Insurance and dad, Rocky, got a job as custodian at Wallowa Valley Memorial Hospital.

Bryce attended school in Wallowa, and graduated in 2006. He pursued a passion for cooking by attending the Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts at Western Culinary Institute in Portland where he became a pastry chef.

After graduation, he returned to Wallowa County and worked at a variety of places - Cloud 9 Bakery, Mad Mary's and the Methodist Church Camp - before settling in as the head chef for Community Connection making senior meals.

"I enjoy it," he said. "This is a great position to have." Bryce enjoys walks with his dog, Sirius, working puzzles, fishing and — most of all— acting. He has appeared in more than a dozen plays with MidValley Theatre Co.

When we moved to the county, we went and saw a play and my family got hooked," he said.

His brothers, mother and father are all part of the group.

### Q. Why live in Wallowa County?

**A.** I say that the big reason for me to stay is that I haven't had a job that would support me elsewhere — but maybe I'm just more comfortable being close to home. I don't really care for the city. Wallowa County is what I know, and a slower pace is easy. I like the mountains. I can pretty much find what I need here.

### Q. What has Wallowa County taught you?

A. Maybe that I'm an easy going, slow going person maybe that's just who I am. I prefer it that way. Wallowa County is an easy going place and you can take your time to decide what you're going to do or how to handle things.

#### Q. Can you recall a book you read when you were a child that really impressed you? And can you recommend a book you've read recently?

**A.** One series of books I really enjoyed was "The Magic Tree House" by Mary Pope Osborne. The kids in the story went into a magic tree house and started reading a book and became part of the story. I enjoyed the second-hand adventure. As a kid I would think "Oh, That Would be Fun to do That!" (The books were a series of 55 stories beginning with 28 books for children 6-9 years and another 27 books for children 7-10 years).

I like Rick Riordan as an author, too. I recently read "Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard" by Riordan. It's a kids-style book, an easy read and fun to do. Disney Publishing Worldwide publishes the fantasy trilogy.

"We'll be trying to be light

on our feet, build light, like the

set for 'Our Town' that was

set up at OK Theatre," Hobbs

ing community input about

where they might establish a

permanent rehearsal and per-

formance venue and where

they might store their sever-

al-container-loads of equip-

But the show must go on.

would like to have a facility of

nity this size could support

tial grant sources and is posi-

tive about the group's chances

"Theoretically, a commu-

She has a folder of poten-

group

ment and costumes.

that," said Hobbs.

with grants.

its own.

Long-term, the

The group is actively seek-

said.

# MidValley Theatre Co. losing its performance, storage venue

## Church is repurposing Lostine facility

By Kathleen Ellyn Wallowa County Chieftain

After nearly two decades, MidValley Theatre Co. is about to reinvent itself. They've had a long run — 14 years in the Providence Academy gymnasium in Lostine, but the church that owns the facility has other plans for the space.

'We kind of defied the odds," said theatre spokesperson Jennifer Hobbs. "It

18

### **NEXT PRODUCTION IN THE WORKS**

To celebrate its past and transition, MidValley will produce a play that includes scenes from many previous shows. The play, titled "Encore." will include excerpts from many different sources, short sketches, songs and poems. Open auditions for the show will continue 6-8 p.m. Sunday and Tuesday evenings through Oct. 2 at the Lostine Presbyterian Church.

Info: Kate Loftus: 541-569-2302 or Jennifer Hobbs jhobbs@ eoni.com.

shouldn't be possible for this group to have done what we've done on the incredibly low funds we have and in the circumstances we have, but it's been great. Everyone who has performed, including kids, has gotten tremendous enjoy-

ment out of it."

Past productions included the ambitious staging of the 30-kid cast "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," "The Music Man" (58-member cast) "The Miracle Worker," "To Kill a Mockingbird," "Diary

20

of Anne Frank," "Cheaper by the Dozen," "The Egg and I," "I Remember Mama," "Desperate Ambrose" and many more. While the size of casts in near-future productions may be smaller to accommodate new set design requirements, no drop in public support is anticipated.

"We're definitely viewing this as an opportunity moving forward," said Hobbs. "We don't feel we're at risk of stopping, we're just at a spot where we have to make choices."

The group has already done plays in the OK Theatre and the Enterprise Odd Fellows Hall — choosing plays with minimal sets that are easy to produce and rehearsals were held in the basement of the Lostine Presbyterian Church.

Church Directory **Grace Lutheran Church of Christ** Church

"It's a challenge, but a worthy one," Hobbs said. "We're trying to create something that fits nicely within the rest of the art movements in the community. We've worked collaboratively with Fishtrap, for instance.'

However, to qualify for grants, groups generally need a permanent homes, an address of a theatre, to begin the application process.

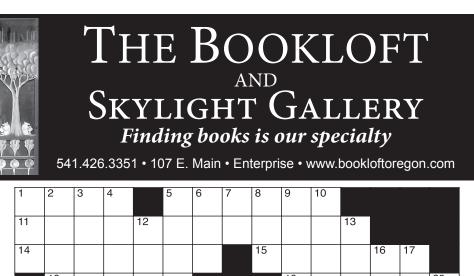
Community members with ideas, suggestions, or wanting to volunteer to help may contact Hobbs at jhobbs@eoni. com or visit the group's facebook page.

"Maybe a solution we haven't even thought of will pop out of the woodwork," said Hobbs

To donate to the cause, send tax-deductible donations to MidValley Theatre Co., 64707 Lostine River Road, Lostine OR 97857 and label it for the "New Theater Fund."

The company is also listed at bit.ly/2NyW22U.







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58.

59.

61. Megabyte

- 14. Fought for position
- 15. Outer layer of the eyeball
- 18. Gymnopedies composer
- 19. Membranes
- 21. Short-term memory
- 23. Comfort
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Breezes through
- 29. In the general surface area
- 30. Replacement worker
- 32. Days have 24 of them (abbr.)
- 33. Bro or sis
- 35. Large, flightless bird
- 36. Future hovercraft
- 39. Complication
- 41. Core muscle
- 42. Electronic point of scale
- 44. Language of Cameroon
- 46. Skin problem
- 47. Slowly drink
- 49. Meaty part of a chicken
- 52. Bangladeshi currency
- 56. Shout
- 58. National capital
- 60. Word derived from a noun
- 62. Dances
- 63. A memorable garden
- Enhancing an offer Detachable aircraft unit Priestess of Hera 8. Tooth caregiver 9. A way to engrave 10. Count on 12. Williamson Airfield code 13. Ancient Greek city 16. Range 17. Ancient Roman poet 20. Scottish tax 22. Doc 25. Bad grades 26. A great pitcher 27. Helpers 29. Former CIA 31. Guy (slang) 34. Actress Ling 36. One from the Balkans Unofficially boxes 38. Mathematical ratio (abbr.) 40. Atomic # 64 43. Broken glass 45. Equally 48. Serbian currency 50. Envisions 51. Source of the Blue Nile 53. Leo's acting pal 54. Sour What relief pitchers do 57. Ma Spy organization Monetary unit