

Joseph Mountain Jubilee music celebration hits all the right notes

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The eighth annual Joseph Mountain Jubilee “Where the Mountains Meet the Music” music fest was another one for the books according to organizer Tammy Kruger. The Roots/Americana event is held under the auspices of the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance and is a fundraiser for the organization.

Kruger said that 10 acts, both local and regional, performed at various venues on Main Street in Joseph. Original music is the staple of the festival although some covers are allowed.

Sometimes acts are chosen from the Alliance’s Fiddle Camp or Dulcimer Camp. Two of the acts, Mason and Weed, along with Blue Plate Special, appeared courtesy of the Fiddle Camp. Chris Acker and Nick Shoulders and the Growing Boys, New Orleans acts, were on the road and agreed to appear.

Local musicians included the indomitable Bart Budwig, An American Forrest and Margo Cilker and the Local Yokels. Venues included the Wallowa



Local musicians An American Forrest and Margo Cilker played to a jam-packed La Laguna crowd in Joseph as part of the Joseph Mountain Jubilee on Saturday, July 6. The festival is in its eighth year and features mostly original Roots/Americana music.

County Farmers Market, the Stubborn Mule, Embers Brew House, Blythe Cricket, Red Horse Coffee Traders, La Laguna, and the Rusty Spur. La Laguna and Blythe Cricket were first-timers hosting the event.

Kruger noted that several

venues reported their best numbers ever for the event.

“I believe more people are coming to the Jubilee as a destination event,” she said. People are now calling the Alliance, Kruger and others to get information about the event.



Photos by Steve Tool/Chieftain

The Local Yokels, a local roots group, plays up a storm at the Rusty Spur in Joseph during the eighth annual Joseph Mountain Jubilee on July 6. Organizer Tammy Kruger called the event the busiest one yet.

The festival also included a 50/50 raffle that netted \$400 for the Alliance and commemorative stainless steel cups were also sold.

“The music alliance doesn’t have a way to compensate ourselves for all the advertising that we do.

The venues take care of the bands, and we do all the footwork,” she said with a laugh.

Changes at this year’s event included a host at each venue to make sure the musicians were introduced and the sponsors thanked.

“I think that made it more festive and feel more pulled together,” Kruger said.

As for Kruger, she thought this year’s event set the benchmark for the future.

“It’s the busiest one we’ve had,” she said.

Wallowa struts its stuff in 4th of July parade

By Megan Futter
For the Chieftain

The Wallowa Old Time 4th of July Parade started out with a bang courtesy of the American Legion VFW. The VFW led the parade, followed by Grand Marshal Mary Ann Burrows.

Crowds of people lined the streets, but there was one Wallowa resident not in attendance this year and her presence was greatly missed.

A fire engine displayed a banner reading “Cheer loud! Cheer proud!” in memory of Dawna Miller 1958-2019. Longtime Wallowa resident Miller passed away earlier this year after a battle with cancer. Miller worked to bring back the Old Time 4th of July Parade to Wallowa in the early eighties. Every year she spearheaded city-wide clean up and spruced up Main Street before the parade. During the parade she cheered on everyone and would make sure children got their candy safely. Many community members spoke of her devotion and pride in the Old Time 4th of July Parade.

For this year’s parade the community elected young



Megan Futter

Little Ms Fourth of July (Preslie Hagen, 10) and Mr. Liberty (Kasey Salmon, 7) rode in the back of a very cool vintage pickup.

royalty. Ballot boxes were placed around Wallowa. Community members voted for one boy to be Mr. Liberty, and one girl to reign as Miss 4th of July. The children had to be between the ages of five and ten. Winners were awarded a crown or cowboy hat and \$30 prize money.

The community voted Preslie Hagen Little Miss 4th of July and Kasey Salmon Mr. Liberty. Hagen is the 10 year old daughter of Bailey Kootz and Jake Redfield of Wallowa. She wants to continue on the path of royalty and hopes she can someday

be the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo Queen. Salmon is the 7 year old son of Patrick and Danielle Salmon of Wallowa and will be attending the second grade at Wallowa Elementary. Hagen shared that her favorite part about 4th of July is all the different floats in the parade, while Salmon said the best part is the fireworks.

After the parade a community barbecue and fundraiser was held at the fire hall. Wallowa Christian Church served hot dogs and hamburgers. Sundaes were available from the Wal-

lowa FBLA, Future Business Leaders of America. Entertainment was provided by the band No Boundaries. Audra Allen, event coordinator said the event was well attended and over 400 people were served lunch.

Rail Riders bicycle group offers new Rondowa Trip

Railrider Cycling Joseph Branch is owned by Kim and Anita Metlen of Imbler Oregon.

The Joseph Branch has added a NEW TOUR for a total of three railriding opportunities in Northeast Oregon. RCJB operates mid-May to the first week of October annually. They offer 2-, 6- and now 4-hour round trip adventures.

The new tour is called RIVER RUN from Minam. This four-hour round-trip pedal adventure on a two seated quadricycle on the WURA rails to Rondowa is offered only on Sundays and Mondays once daily. There are no services on this tour so guests must take plenty of water and snacks. This is a great way to experience the Wal-

lowa River by rail. The final day of the season is October 6, 2019. River Run will share the week with three 6-hour round trips to Wallowa where guests take a lunch break and check out the City of Wallowa. Reservations are required for all departures from Minam.

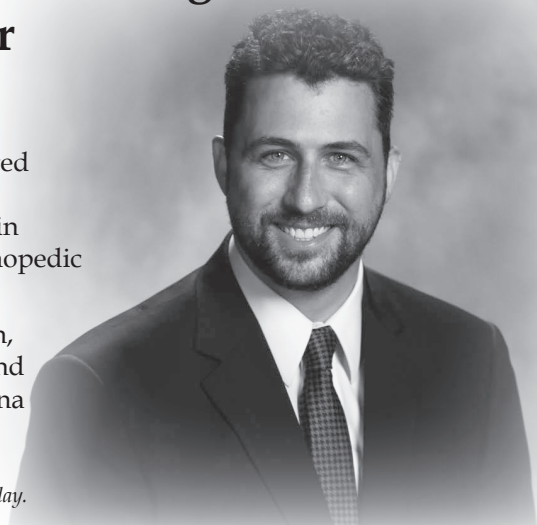
RCJB continues to offer two-hour tours from Joseph three times daily, Thursday thru Monday. All locations are closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. More information is available online at jbrailriders.com. Reservations are available online or in at our ticket office located at 501 W Alder Street, Joseph, Oregon, 97846. Railriding is a physical sport. Most individuals of average fitness should be able to participate.

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- Internship and Residency completed in orthopedic surgery at Affinity Medical Center, Ohio; Fellowship in sports medicine completed at Orthopedic Research of Virginia, Richmond
- Served four years as flight surgeon, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia and Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina

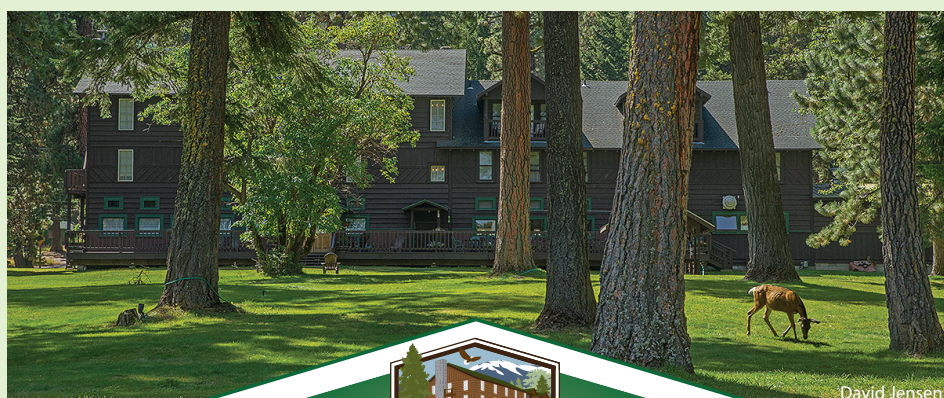
Dr. Heisinger will be seeing patients at Wallowa Memorial Hospital regularly for clinic visits and surgery. Ask your physician for a referral today.



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