



## The 6th Annual Main Street Show & Shine IS OVER

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Christina Knecht/Chieftain

**SINGING FOR FREEDOM** — The Brann Family + 1 performs some moving gospel music for an A21 Fundraiser at the Joseph Baptist Church on Friday, Aug. 16. A21 is a Christian non-profit dedicated to ending slavery and human trafficking throughout the world. (L to R) Parker Brann, Christi Brann, Bella Brann, Ariana Samples, Hartwell Brann, Darrell Brann and Alden Brann.

## Joseph Baptist Church raises awareness of human trafficking

By Steve Tool  
Wallowa County Chieftain

One local church is doing its part to raise awareness about and eliminate human trafficking. Joseph Baptist Church, pastored by Steve Bartlow, held its second annual music and pie auction fundraiser for A21, a Christian group dedicated to fighting human trafficking, most of which involves women and children as sex slaves.

About 50 people packed into the church on Friday, Aug. 16 to hear about a half dozen musicians play four songs each as well as to bid in a tasty auction of about 20 pies and buy raffle tickets for an exquisitely crafted quilt.

Performing musicians included the Brann Family, Sandi and Larry Richardson, the church worship team, Caleb and

Ariana Samples and another performer.

Pies sold briskly between upbeat music sets, as did raffle tickets for the quilt. In the end, the benefit raised more than \$3000 for A21. The church kept none of the proceeds.

According to church pastor, Steve Bartlow, the benefit netted the most fundraising yet for A21. The pastor said that the church got involved with A21 when they felt the Lord calling them to get more involved with those who had been trafficked.

After researching several organizations, the church chose A21 because of their approach to rescuing traffic victims. The organization provides housing to victims as well as medical and emotional care.

"Not only are they helping them emotionally and physically, with doc-

tors' care, but they teach job skills so they're less vulnerable to traffickers, who often lure them with false promises of lucrative work," Bartlow said.

A21 also helps prosecutors in foreign countries, such as Greece, with legal aid and even provides education to vulnerable populations to help them recognize and avoid trafficking traps. ECCLA, a watchdog group, gave A21 high marks for its financial accountability.

Bartlow said the switch from yard sale to music and pie auction has paid off in spades as far as funds raised and fellowship.

"We've been really happy about that," Bartlow said. "I think it's nice to invite the community to come together. In this setup, we get to meet everyone and have fun together. It's much more social, and it feels like a community event."

## Hurricane Creek Grange draws a crowd

By Ellen Moris Bishop  
Wallowa County Chieftain

On Sunday, August 18, the Hurricane Creek Grange held its open house for the community.

Members brought salads and main dishes to share, along with 18 (!) pies. Worthy Master David McBride mastered the grill, turning out burgers for all, with the help of his father who was celebrating his 70th wedding anniversary. Darlene Turner assisted with the fixings.

The event was so successful that grange members lost count of visitors and meals served at around 200, and they actually ran out of food shortly thereafter.

High point of the afternoon was the gifting of quilts to attending veterans and heartfelt thank you's for their service.

The Hurricane Creek Grange will offer another open house on September 9.



Bernice Bernotat

**Veteran Ron Gilstrap holds the quilt given to him by Hurricane Creek Grange members in honor of his service.**



## 11th Annual Wallowa Resources Barn Dance & Auction

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- ★ SNAKE RIVER 5 DAY RAFTING TRIP
- ★ ANTLERLESS ELK HUNT FOR 5
- ★ PACK SADDLE & PANNIER
- ★ WALLA WALLA WINE TRIP
- ★ AND MUCH MORE!

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63327 TENDERFOOT VALLEY RD  
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