

Circle 100 plans 'drive-by' event

In-person fundraiser nixed by COVID-19

By BILL BRADSHAW
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The annual meeting of the Circle 100 Club will not be an in-person meeting, this year, but there will be a "drive-by" event instead because of COVID-19 restrictions, according to a press release.

The Circle 100 Club raises money for the Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation and this year will hold its 10th annual event, according to foundation Director Stacy Green.

Donors will be asked to drive by the corner of West Greenwood and SW Second streets in Enterprise from 4:30-6 p.m. Thursday, March 18, where the ladies of the foundation board will be to collect the standard \$100 checks. The ladies will hand out a "goodie bag" and flowers, Green said. At that time, donors will be able to learn what the "secret" target of the donation will be.

She said they keep it a secret until then because, "We've got to entice them

to come by."

According to a March 2019 story in the *Chieftain*, projects that Circle 100 has supported in the past include investing in new equipment and training for the outpatient and chemotherapy department at Wallowa Memorial Hospital so more patients could receive their treatments here, new reclining chairs for each patient room, a state-of-the-art newborn incubator to safely transport newborns and infants in an emergency and new physical therapy equipment, to name a few.

"There's no cookies to bake, subcommittees to chair or ongoing meetings to attend," the press release stated. "Just like always, if \$100 sounds a bit steep, partner with a friend at \$50 each, and together you make one member."

Checks should be made out to the Wallowa Valley Health Care Foundation.

Anyone unable to drive by but who still wants to participate can mail a check to the foundation at P.O. Box 53, Enterprise, OR 97828.

Those planning to drive by are asked to RSVP the foundation at 541-426-1913.

County-raised filmmaker looks at wildfires

By ELLEN MORRIS BISHOP

For the Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA COUNTY — After last summer, there's no doubt that the West has entered an era of catastrophic forest fires. "The West is Burning," a new feature-length documentary film shot, produced, and directed by Wallowa County native Cody Sheehy, explores this new era of megafires and offers solutions that can bring greater prosperity to rural communities. It airs on Oregon Public Broadcasting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25.



Sheehy

The film was inspired and launched by the late Doug McDaniel.

"A key thing for Doug was how management practices, management objectives and market values have changed," said Nils Christoffersen, executive director of Wallowa Resources. "A lot of private landowners in Eastern Oregon are good examples of how we can do forest stewardship, protect wildlife and salmon habitat, reduce fire risk, and still make some money from (our land). We wanted to ... create a movie that put this story in front of people."

Wallowa Resources served as a launching pad and home base for the project.

"We pulled this together on a fairly tight budget thanks to the support of the University of Arizona and a lot of colleagues and friends across the West who we've worked with for two decades," Christoffersen said.

They engaged Sheehy, a Wallowa-born filmmaker



Contributed Photo

"The West is Burning," shot, produced and directed by Wallowa County native Cody Sheehy, examines why megafires have become annual catastrophes across the West and what we can do about them. It airs on Oregon Public Broadcasting Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021.

who holds a master's degree in range ecology and has won two Emmys for his documentaries.

"If you want to get a story in front of as many people as possible, you need to frame it around what is attracting the most public, political and media attention," Sheehy told Christoffersen.

And so, they focused on recent megafires.

"As a kid, growing up in a former logging town ... we didn't have fires like this," Sheehy said. "... I wanted to know what had changed and what we could do about it."

The film, two years in the making, begins with the catastrophic wildfires in California and Oregon from 2015-20, including the 110,000-acre Canyon Creek Complex fire near John Day, then moves into how practices in forest management have changed over time. It also explores community actions that are reducing catastrophic wildfire risk and opportunities to revitalize rural economies. Those include new forest prod-

ucts, from biochar to new innovations like nanocrystalline cellulose made from wood pulp that can be used in the clear part of windows as tuneable reflective filters in smart windows.

"Some of these are pretty exciting," Christoffersen said.

Mark Webb, executive director of the Blue Mountain Forest Partners and a former Grant County judge, is included among those looking to improve forest management practices and economic opportunities. His community was hit hard by the 2015 Canyon Creek Complex fire.

"I think the general message (of the film) is right," Webb said. "The status quo is unacceptable. We can't continue to move forward without changing how we manage our landscapes. That's going to require a change in attitude as well as new partnerships and relationships and acknowledging that maybe we got some things wrong in the past."

Wallowa Resources is

developing educational guides so the film can be used in the classroom. There are also plans to offer Filmstacker, a video platform for collaborative storytelling, to generate community-based learning and action.

"We have to see wildfire — both prescribed fire and some small-intensity fires — as a tool," Christoffersen said. "We need to thin, do forest management, follow up with prescribed burns and commit to maintenance. ... Future forests will be more open than we are used to, and people will have to adapt to more smoke and more low-severity fire."

"What it means to take care of the land and live on the land needs to be radically reevaluated as we go forward," Webb added. "We need to figure out how to accommodate our interests to meet the needs of the landscape. And when we do that, we're going to have sustainable communities and we're going to be able to address all kinds of challenges."

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Joseph Center exhibit to focus on 'Motherhood'

Chieftain staff

JOSEPH — "Motherhood" is the theme of a women's exhibition to be

on display at the Joseph Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph beginning Friday, Feb. 26, according to a press release.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no opening reception, as with most Joseph Center exhibits. However, the gallery will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday. The exhibit runs through April 6.

"This year, we selected the theme of motherhood...because 2020 has been a tough year for women," the press release stated. "COVID-19 school closures sent women back home to care for children, act as teacher and mother, all while trying to work to keep families together. The theme also celebrates, honors and delves into some of the complexities of motherhood."

For the past seven years, the center has done an open call for women's artwork. This year's curator, Aimee Jungmann, looked through 24 artists' work

and selected 33 pieces that will be on display.

"I'm really looking forward to hanging and setting up this exhibit," Jungmann said. "It will be difficult to choose a favorite for the Curator's Choice award."

The opening will have two awards: People's Choice and Curator's Choice with \$50 prizes.

Artists include Jennifer Klimsza, Jane Glesne, Talia Jean Galvin and René Fleming.

The center also plans multiple brown bag discussions Tuesdays at noon. Its book club will be reading *The Yellow House: A Memoir*, by Sarah M. Broom, the 2019 National Book Award Winner. Dates are yet to be determined. Check the center's website at <https://josephy.org> for updates. The exhibit was made possible by the Wallowa County Soroptimist.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

BODEE BAUCK

6 year old first grader from Enterprise, Bodee Bauck was demonstrating his awesome skills recently in the Chris Bodily 3-Way ski race in McCall Idaho. Bodee is an avid skier and member of the Anthony Lakes Ski Race Association. He recently competed in the U10 competition in Gelande Jump, Slalom and Giant Slalom held at Little Ski Hill and Brundage Mountain earning him this week's Athlete of the Week.

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