

The Brick offers unique fare to Wallowa



By Bill Bradshaw

New this year, eatery caters to later crowd

WALLOWA — A local couple has taken over the former Main Street Grill and revamped and reopened the place, dubbing it The Brick Restaurant.

Cody and Tish Green opened The Brick in April. The name from the new establishment comes more from its structure than anything, Tish said.

"It actually wasn't anything spectacular," she said. "We were having a hard time landing on a name and we looked around one day and because the building's all brick, it became The Brick."

In fact, she relishes the local and family history in the building. On one of the walls she keeps photographs of the building from the 1880s and 1902 of the Hotel McCrae, owned and operated by her step-grandmother's family. She said the building was sold in 1902, thus the latter photo.

"And now we have it," she said.

The Greens are green

Neither Cody nor Tish has ever run a restaurant or bar before and they're learning as they go, they said.

"We're green at it," Tish said. "I worked as a property manager for Chris-

man (Development) for the past five years while I lived here. When Wiley (Frye) decided to sell this place ... we just got a wild hair and thought we'd try and do it. I've always loved cooking at home and now we're serving other people."

Cody, on the other hand, has more experience with cattle. He operates his grandfather's 1,000-acre ranch where he raises about 100 head of Hereford-Angus cross.

"I don't know anything about restaurants," he said. "I'm mainly doing it to help Tish."

He's the main bartender, but also handles the front end of the restaurant while Tish cooks.

"He was saying (a few days previously) that how his life has changed opening this place because he used to work solely with cows and didn't have to work with many people," Tish said. "Now he's in this profession where he's (working with people) all day, every day, so it's been a huge change for him."

Does he prefer people or cattle?

"A little bit of both," Cody laughs.

He grew up in the Wallowa area, while Tish is from Pendleton and has only lived here about six years. But she's no stranger to the area.

"I spent a lot of summers here because my grandparents were here," she said. "We spent all our lives coming to Wallowa, but as far as actually moving here, that was in 2015."

Working out 'kinks'

Being that the restaurant business is new to the



Tish and Cody Green prepare to open for the day on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021, at their business, The Brick Restaurant, in Wallowa.

Greens, they're still working out bumps in the road.

"We're still trying to figure out 'kinks' before we settle into a menu and what works for us, especially as we move toward a fall and winter menu," Tish said. "The hours, we've had to change a little bit — we even had to close the past couple of weeks because we had to stay in quarantine because we were exposed to COVID, and we absolutely had no income the past two weeks, so that was another kink we had to work out."

Other delays were caused by a wait to get liability insurance to cover the hard liquor in the bar.

"It was previously just beer and wine," Tish said. "But figuring our hours and what works for us — we open at 3 p.m. and it usually picks up about 5 p.m."

Finding their niche

Adding one more eatery to a small town may



Tish Green, co-owner of The Brick Restaurant in Wallowa, gets the kitchen ready to open Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021. She and husband, Cody, operate their new venture.

seem like too much, but the Greens have found their niche. With others offering breakfast and lunch, they decided to focus on dinner and staying open later. That's evident in both their hours and their menu.

"Our option was to pick a lane," Tish said, adding that nearby restaurants offer earlier meals, so they planned to concentrate on fare for later in the day and evening.

"Our intent was to not do what everyone else was

doing, not to offer the same kind of thing," she said. "Originally, we wanted to be the place that stayed open later."

The intent is not to compete with nearby restaurants.

"There's no need for that much competition in a tiny community like this," she said. "Rather than making it about competition, it's more about giving more opportunities to the folks who are here. That's the route we wanted to go and we'll stick with for

THE BRICK RESTAURANT

Who: Cody and Tish Green

Where: 214 E. 1st St., Wallowa

Phone: 541-886-2555

Email: tish.green@aol.com

Online: Facebook page

Hours: 3-10 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 8 a.m.-noon Sunday

awhile. We like change."

That'll be evident as the seasons change. Right now, the menu is "focused more on dinners: steak dinners, pork chops, chicken, pastas and we have a few options for burgers, chilis, a sirloin dip like a French dip but with sirloin meat so it's better," Tish said. "When I switch to the winter menu in a couple of weeks, we'll be gearing toward the warm, comfort foods, so a lot of hot sandwiches, hot rolls and soups."

They'll also have a unique, namesake offering.

"We are going to serve a 'brick of fries,' because we are The Brick," she said. "You typically see something like that at a fair. It's this compressed 'brick' of potatoes and you fry it ... usually they're topped with cheese, chili and you can even do a lot of different things."

Bill Bradshaw is a reporter for the Wallowa County Chieftain. Have a business tip? Contact him at 541-398-5503 or bbradshaw@wallowa.com.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Join together
 7. "War and Peace," for one
 11. Not well-lit
 14. One giving a speech
 15. ___ or false
 16. Music genre associated with black eyeliner
 17. *Completely immoral supervisor?
 19. Financing letters
 20. Metallic fabric
 21. Burden
 22. Bad throw at a casino
 23. Like the wolf in a fairy tale
 24. *Weaving instructor?
 27. Irritates
 29. Points of view
 30. Like some people who read closed captions
 31. Tightly stretched
 35. Vessels with spigots
 36. *Some under-the-table flirting?
 39. (OMG!)
 41. Maker of Thick & Fluffy waffles
 42. Wyatt of the Wild West
 46. Actress Sorkin
 48. Closer, in a guessing game
 50. *Evidently fake jewel?
 54. Slippery, as a street
 55. Pixar movie with talking vehicles
 56. Sporty auto roof
 57. Angel costume headwear
 59. ___-man band
 60. Mess up ... and a hint to 17-, 24-, 36- and 50-Across
 63. Lead role in "How I Met Your Mother"
 64. Last number in many prices
 65. "Am not!" response
 66. Popular show letters
 67. High cards in royal flushes
 68. Yards' relatives
- CLUES DOWN**
1. ___ story (sad-sounding tale)
 2. Nutty confection
 3. Layered pasta dish
 4. Something in your cart
 5. Make a visit
 6. Notable span
 7. Was surrounded by wavy lines, in a comic
 8. Quarrel
 9. Party attendees
 10. ___ Lingus
 11. Start of a letter to a longtime advice columnist
 12. Influences
 13. Shape-shifts
 18. Thumbs-down votes
 22. More like sea salt than iodized salt
 23. Like the wolf in a fairy tale
 25. Regarding, in a memo
 26. "Regarding, in a memo" or "Counterbalances"
 28. Counterbalances
 32. Enjoyed a buffet
 33. Big name in boots
 34. "You're it!"
 37. Certain column in the paper
 38. Like freshly cut grass
 39. Dad joke, e.g.
 40. Sauce for fettucine
 43. "Has the meeting started?"
 44. Change the hue of
 45. Inquire nosily
 46. Broad neckties
 47. Kind of acid in fertilizers
 49. Stick (to)
 51. Make amends
 52. Shuffles around aimlessly, say
 53. Decide
 58. Words before and after "is"
 60. Ancestry.com test subject
 61. Spiral-cut meat
 62. ___ Altos, California

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Joseph United Methodist Church

3rd & Lake St. • Joseph

10 AM Worship
Online AND In Person

For More Info
541-432-3102
JosephUMC.ORG

Pastor Cherie Dearth

Grace Lutheran Church

409 West Main - Enterprise

SUNDAY WORSHIP
at 9am

Pastor John B. King Jr
phone (message): 541-426-4633
web: gracelutheranenterprise.com

Enterprise Christian Church

85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449

We have 'In-person worship' @ 9:00 am
(Guidelines observed)

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David Bruce
Pastor, Enterprise Christian Church

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

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NE 3rd & Main St

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Sunday 9:30am

Lostine Presbyterian Church

Discussion Group 9:30 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM

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Hwy 82, Lostine
Stephen Kliewer, Minister

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Pastor: David Pendleton

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Pastor David Ballard 503-810-9886

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