

Local students join in 'Great Oregon Shakeout'

Schools prepare in case of earthquake

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Local schoolchildren learned to “drop, cover and hold on” followed by a rapid evacuation of buildings, Thursday, Oct. 21, at 10:21 a.m. as part of the Great Oregon Shakeout Day called for by Gov. Kate Brown.

The exercise was for students, faculty and staff to know what to do in case of a hazard such as an earthquake, but also wildfire, drought, floods, ice storms and more, according to a press release.

Thursday’s exercise was “to encourage Oregonians to learn and practice safe methods to use during an earthquake,” the release stated.

At a signal from the school, students were to:

- Drop onto hands and knees.
- Cover head and neck and crawl to a sturdy desk or table if one is nearby.
- Hold on until the shaking stops.

Landon Braden, acting principal at Enterprise



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Students in Mark Keffer’s fourth-grade class at Enterprise Elementary School “drop, cover and hold on” under their desks Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, during the “Great Oregon Shakeout” drill to prepare for a possible earthquake.

Elementary School, read a script over the intercom.

“Today, we are participating in the Great Oregon Shakeout with many other schools in the state of Oregon and around the country. Whether you are in Wallowa County, California, Washington or any other state or country, there is always a chance of an earthquake happening. We

want you to be prepared just in case. Again, this is only a drill.

“During the drill, you will drop to the ground, take cover under something sturdy that will protect you and hold on to it until the shaking stops. You will want to move away from windows and any free-standing heavy objects that could fall on you.

After we drop, cover and hold and the shaking has stopped, we will get back on the intercom to evacuate the buildings.

“We will now conduct the drill — The ground is shaking, drop, cover and hold on.”

At this point, Braden repeatedly played a recording of the sound of an earthquake. After a few minutes,

he announced it was time to evacuate the building.

“We made it in 2 minutes and 15 seconds,” Braden said later. “That’s 30 seconds faster than last year.”

He said the idea to include the evacuation with the shakeout drill was the brainchild of school Office Manager Lori Shaw.

“I wanted to get the school involved in part of that procedure,” she said. “Students need to learn that when there is an earthquake to drop, cover and hold on and then get out of the building in case of after-shocks or something. The evacuation was all part of that process.”

She, too, was impressed with how quickly and efficiently the school was evacuated.

“Two minutes and 15 seconds from kinder to sixth grade is pretty amazing,” Shaw said.

The drill also comes in handy for the monthly safety exercises the school is required to perform.

“Every month, we have to do some type of safety drill,” Shaw said. “We list it on this sheet and when the state fire marshal comes in, we have proof we’ve done it.”

Signs were posted in

the playground to show students where to line up. Attendance was counted before returning to class, Braden said.

Wallowa Schools held a similar drill, a school spokeswoman said. Joseph Charter School did not, Superintendent Lance Homan said in an email.

“Understanding what to do in the first few moments after a disaster can mean the difference between being a survivor and a victim,” Director Andrew Phelps, of the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, said in the press release. “It is up to each of us — and all of us — to take action to reduce our risk.”

More than 500,000 Oregonians — including schools, individuals, families and businesses — committed to take part in this year’s drill, pledging to drop, cover and hold on wherever they are and whatever they’re doing.

IN BRIEF

September was colder, drier than average

WALLOWA COUNTY — September was cooler and drier than average in Wallowa County, according to the National Weather Service office in Pendleton.

In Joseph, the average temperature for the month was 53.9 degrees, or 2.7 degrees below normal for September. Highs were at an average of 71.5, which is just 0.7 degrees above normal, and lows were at an average of 36.3, which is 6.1 degrees below normal.

On Sept. 7, the high was 87 degrees, the top mark for the month and one of seven days the temperature reached 80 degrees or higher. The lowest temperature was 28 degrees on the 17th, one of four days the temperature dipped to 30 or below.

In all, 15 days saw the high above normal, three had it at normal and 12 days were below normal. Only two days saw the low temperature above normal, three days were at normal and 25 days were below normal.

Just under two-thirds of an inch of rain — 0.64 inches — fell during the month, still 0.78 inches below normal. The first nine months of 2021 have seen just 5.22 inches of precipitation, which is 8.12 inches below normal.

Beekeepers potluck is Nov. 3

JOSEPH — The Wallowa County Beekeepers season-end potluck is on tap, and is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 3.

The “Bee Social” potluck runs from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Hurricane Creek Grange Hall, 82930 Airport Lane in Joseph. Admission is free, but the group is

accepting donations.

The event is being hosted by Wallowa County Beekeepers members Bre Austin, David Bright, Lorna Cook, Nola Driskell and Nelda Murri. In addition to an opportunity to connect or reconnect with local beekeepers, the event will be an opportunity for attendees to celebrate the group being designated as a 501c(3) charitable, non-profit, education-focused organization.

Door prizes will be available, and there will also be some surplus beekeeping equipment available.

For more information, contact Nelda Murri at 509-540-4733 or nmurri@gmail.com. The group meets annually five times a year, with the next meeting currently slated for Feb. 23, 2022.

Tingelstad, Melville receive Dunn Scholarship

WALLOWA COUNTY — Two Wallowa County graduates were recipients of the third Bruce Dunn Scholarship fund, which awarded \$1,500 to students pursuing natural resource college degrees.

Ellyse Tingelstad, a 2020 graduate of Joseph High School, is studying environmental science and criminal justice. Tingelstad is currently attending the College of Idaho.

Aubrina Melville, a 2021 graduate of Enterprise High School, is studying animal science at South Dakota State University and hopes to double in agriculture business.

The Bruce Dunn Scholarship Fund was established days after his sudden passing.

The fund’s direction to natural resource students is done with the hope to encourage students to return to Wallowa County to serve as professional foresters, biologists, ranchers and farmers in the next

generation, according to a press release.

Contributions to the funds can be mailed to 401 Northeast First Street, Suite A, Enterprise, OR. 97828 or by visit www.walloware-sources.org.

Two events Nov. 3 at Josephy Center

JOSEPH — Two events are taking place Wednesday, Nov. 3, at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph, both encouraging participants to try their hands at creativity.

From 10 a.m. to noon, the Walk-in Wednesday event offers various medium disciplines.

Tickets are \$20. Proof of vaccination against COVID-19 is required.

From 4-7 p.m., the Watercolor Society embraces the practice of watercolor painting. Crystal Newton will offer new techniques and refine old ones. Tickets are \$45.

To learn more, call the center at 541-432-0505 or visit https://josephy.org/calendar/category/classes/adult/list?hide_subsequent_recurrences=1.

Two-day beading workshop to be at Josephy Center

JOSEPH — A two-day workshop on Native American beading will be held

Nov. 20-21 at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph.

Roger Amerman leads the workshop, which starts at 10 a.m. Nov. 20 and 1 p.m. Nov. 21.

Cost is \$150. Workshop participants will learn the basics of beading as well as a two-needle process in order to construct a beaded neck bag. This method of bead stitching is referred to as “contour” and “lane” bead stitching. The workshop also will examine color use and contrast, bead edging solutions and beading texture strategies. Students will end the workshop with a bag that embodies their style, sense of color, texture and is unique to them.

To learn more, call the center at 541-432-0505 or visit <https://josephy.org/event/native-american-beading-2-day-workshop-with-roger-amerman>.

Intro to Collage to be at Josephy Center

JOSEPH — An introduction to collage workshop will be held Dec. 4 at the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture, according to a press release.

The workshop, which runs from 1-4 p.m., will be led by Janis Carper. Cost is \$45.

In this workshop, participants will explore a variety

of collaging techniques and materials. They’ll play with design, layering, color and transparency. Basic materials are provided, but participants are urged to feel free to bring imagination and any materials they find inspirational — discarded books, old magazines, photos, greeting cards, scraps of paper, buttons, old jewelry, fabric, etc.

Participants will come out of the workshop with a finished product.

To learn more, call the center at 541-432-0505 or visit <http://secondchanceproductions.com>.

— Chieftain staff

Births

A daughter, Charlotte Louise Berry, was born October 14, 2021 in Enterprise to Quinn Berry and Alexandria Schminke of Wallowa. Grandparents are Sarah Schminke, Dr. Kevin Schminke, Wanda Berry and Thomas Berry.

A daughter, Scout Ruth Allen, was born October 16, 2021 in Enterprise to Luke and Kelsey Allen of Enterprise. Grandparents are Kelley Moore, Birch Moore, Debbie Allen and Greg Allen

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