

Africa:

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While living in Africa he's noticed a lot of factors which have stifled peaceful relationships between various groups. One being that even though you see some Pan-African unity, the divide between different communities and countries can be extreme.

"There's 55 countries (and) within each country you can have up to 100 languages. Each language is its own culture," he said.

In Uganda, which according to Kinzie is the same size as Oregon with 10 times as many people, the overpopulation of youths, especially men, has created a lack of job opportunities.

"A lot of men you'll see will just be on the side of the road doing nothing, just hanging out with their buds," Kinzie said, "Basically everybody's 15."

So in 2021, looking for the opportunity to become an even greater agent for peace, he applied for a Rotary Peace Fellowship in Africa with the help of the Rotary Club of Wallowa County. After getting accepted, he became one of three Americans to embark on a yearlong program at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda.

As a part of this fellowship, Kinzie went to Uganda for 10 weeks to study peace and conflict from a community perspective. After studying he went to Ethiopia, Malawi, Somalia and Botswana where he laid down the framework for his fellowship project, an African Peacemaking Database.

The idea behind the database was to fill a void. There are many international indexes that show how peaceful a country is based on factors like the number of weapons, economy, wars and corruption. But even though these indexes inform about how peaceful a place is, how can people look at any of this data and improve peacemaking in their day to day lives?

So in collaboration with the African Union, Kinzie laid out a 15-year project to figure out the best practices of peace throughout the continent by obtaining responses from local leaders, women, youths and elders.

"I'm gathering how they view the experience and the expression of peace in their daily lives ... then from the bottom we go to the top and we make policies out of how people really view what peace means in their life," he said.

For some people it can be as simple as playing sports, getting water and going to church. But these practices can help communities achieve peace, which is why he wants to update the database not with stats, but by

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— Seth Kinzie

making sure these processes of peace are being implemented by Africans.

"Instead of just getting new data all the time, it's more like how do we make sure that it is always recycled into the people who offer it so that they own it and there is action coming from it," Kinzie said.

Joseph and Africa have quite different circumstances, and Kinzie feels that in Joseph he can be with his own thoughts more than he can in some of the vibrant communities he works in on the other side of the globe.

"Africa kind of wears you out a little bit," he said, "I'm able to relax a little more here (in Joseph) and recharge."

When he's in Joseph, Kinzie and his friend Ezekiel Hale run a web-development business called Develop Easy. He is also a pianist, who composes music with different groups and by himself, and teaches piano lessons on the side. He spends time doing information technology for the Joseph Center for Arts and Culture so he can pay the bills while doing his peacework.

He is going back to Africa in October to present his findings, as he hopes to get \$250,000 a year for an initial five-year period to start the project. If he secures funding, Kinzie hopes to keep traveling between Oregon and Africa and help spread peace for the next few decades.

"I would love a future where I get to go back to Africa a little bit every year, stay in touch with the project, help it out, but kind of let it flow away on its own wings. That sounds like a cool life," he said.

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Planning:

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relaxation and what feels best with their outfit selections for anyone coming.

"Be comfortable and watch the weather because you know it's Northeast Oregon and it can change in a minute," he said.

And the cowboy attire obviously isn't something that's uncommon for the rodeo, Hanigan also wears a similar type of get-up.

"I usually wear a cowboy hat, I have my gun, I have my Levi's, my cowboy boots. That's how my normal dress is," Hanigan said, "It's summertime; I'm cooling down."

Tickner thinks the weather this year could cause more people to dress differently, but she enjoys the cultural attire of the event.

"I think it's supposed to be pretty hot this year, so maybe just something more comfortable for them. But it is always fun to have spectators enjoying the Western activities in full dress," she said.

When it comes to positioning herself within Har-

ley Tucker Memorial Arena, Hanigan and her fiancé prefer to sit on the south side of the arena up on top to avoid the sun shining directly in their eyes.

"Underneath the awning we're covered and we try to get up high. I think we're in the second row (as) close to center as possible," Hanigan said.

Tickner thinks people tend to prefer a different spot to stay out of the sun when there is general admission to the rodeo on Wednesday and Thursday.

"Most of the time that's the north side under the covered seating, so they're out of the sun or weather if we have any," she said.

For food, Hanigan doesn't have much preference where she chooses to dine at the event, and likes to mix it up.

"I try a little bit of everything every year, and try to try something different," she said. "So I don't get the same thing all the time."

She also brings a water bottle to make sure she stays hydrated in the hot summertime conditions.

Fair food classics are all the rave at Chief Joseph Days, and Tickner explained

that there are a few specific foods people prefer.

"The curly fries and elephant ears ... that's always a fun one to get at rodeos," Tickner said.

When deciding which days to attend, it can really depend on what excites you the most about the festivities. Some families might prefer Friday for the Grand Parade, and those who are more focused on the rodeo action might want to prioritize the PRCA rodeo on Saturday night.

For an event that's fun for everyone, Tickner recommends the Bucking Horse Stampede on Tuesday in which they run the horses that take part in the parade down Main Street.

"People can watch them come all the way down," she said. "It's pretty fun, it can get a little wild sometimes, but it is fun to watch."

Hanigan likes to go on Saturday night for the main rodeo, but she goes on Wednesday night for a reason that's closer to her heart.

"My fiancé's grandson rides the sheep (on Wednesday night), and they come all the way from Idaho to do just that," Hangian said.

Tamkaliks:

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A spiritual side

Most events opened with a prayer to the Creator, offering thanks and asking for guidance. One of the more spiritual ceremonies was when a native name was conferred on a tribal member.

Armand Menthorne, a member of the Umatilla Tribe who is in charge of the longhouse at the Homeland Project, emphasized that the Creator brought those in attendance together for a reason. That was exemplified in the presence of a woman from South Korea — Mystic Voice — and a man from Africa — Jonathan Azis.

The ceremony may have been spiritual, but it was far from dour.

In introducing and welcoming Mystic Voice, Menthorne said, "That's what she wants to be called by, but in Indian humor we can call her anything we want."

The room erupted with laughter.

"We have to welcome one another," he said. "The Creator made a plan for her to be here and she's here. ... Maybe she'll come again and bring some of her family — or maybe she'll pay for all of us to go to South Korea."

That sparked another round of laughter.

She said she was glad to be there and emphasized some similarities between her people and the Nez Perce. She told how she lived on an island off the Korean coast that once was independent. Her people — like the Nimiipuu — had become known as horse breeders. In the Korean case, they bred horses for the Mongol Empire. Also like the Nez Perce, her people's land had become occupied.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Dancers of all ages were out in their finest regalia in the dance arbor Saturday, July 23, 2022, during the 30th annual Tamkaliks Celebration.

"You're the people of the Wallows and of horses," she said to the crowd. "We like you to share your wisdom with our nation and the world to live in harmony with nations."

The past

Tamkaliks — which in Nimiipuu means "from where you can see the moun-

ains" — has been going on since 1990 when Taz Conner and Terry and Nancy Crenshaw organized the first such event. According to the Homeland website, in 1989, Conner, a descendant of Old Chief Joseph, Tuekakas, was invited by the city of Wallowa to help them plan some kind of Native American festival in Wallowa. It was decided that a friendship potluck and powwow would be the most appropriate event.

The first Tamkaliks took place in 1990 in the Wallowa High School gymnasium. Once the tribe purchased the 160-acre site where the Homeland Project now is — in 1997 — the powwow and potluck was renamed Tamkaliks.

Now, Tamkaliks takes place (usually) on the third weekend of July, the weekend before Chief Joseph Days in Joseph.

"Part of the reason we do that is some people like to come and camp through both," Crenshaw said.

Next year's Tamkaliks is already scheduled for July 21-23, 2023.

WHS TRAPSHOOTERS

Six Wallowa High School trapshooters took part in the USA High School Clay Target League National Championship, July 6-10 in Mason, Michigan. Three shooters -- Lane Tanzey, Kellan Knifong and Cash Tanzey -- finished in the top 400. Five of the six shooters return next season.

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