## THE OPENING ACT



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#### **SUBMIT NEWS**

Submit your event information by Monday for publication the following week (two weeks in advance is even better!). Go! Magazine is published Wednesdays in the Wallowa County Chieftain and Blue Mountain Eagle. It publishes Thursdays in The Observer, Baker City Herald and East Oregonian.

### **ADVERTISING AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**Baker City Herald** 

541-523-3673

**The Observer** 

541-963-3161

**East Oregonian** 

541-276-2211

**Wallowa County Chieftain** 

541-426-4567

**Blue Mountain Eagle** 

541-575-0710

**Hermiston Herald** 

541-567-6457

## What we're into

#### **TYPEWRITERS**

n a whim, I bought my dad a Smith-Corona Coronamatic 2200 typewriter for his birthday. The intent was to have him write down the fantastical stories he had lived through — from captaining a fishing boat through Panama while warplanes bombed ships to the time spent in an impromptu shelter of an elk carcass.

I found myself looking up typewriters on eBay and scoping local thrift stores for these vintage machines. Writing

is something I'd always struggled with, especially holding a pen. My fingers quickly cramp and my handwriting holds no envy among doctors and chickens.

I bought a Webster XL-500 typewriter from Swartz Ink on Jefferson Street a few days later. It's baby blue and sprightly. And then a cast-iron Royal KMM. And then a Smith-Corona Automatic 12 off eBay — which came packaged with an egg carton as padding. I had to restrain myself from

purchasing an Underwood No. 5 at Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

These machines are nearly bulletproof. Like vintage film cameras which I also collect - you can see the reflection of past generations within the engineering. Everything serves a purpose.

There's also a bit of magic in the clacks and chimes as letters hammer against paper and platen. It's the same gratification you get when you take a Polaroid instead of a phone snapshot; there's a reason wedding photographers urge their clients



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

to print photos instead of only posting them on social media.

Hard drives fail. Phones crack or get lost, and leave no physical proof of our existence. I watched my nieces and nephews grow up on Facebook. There's no telling whether social media will exist in 40 years as society

trudges forward.

To quote Ben Ryder, played by Ed Harris in the movie "Kodachrome": "Years from now when they dig us up there won't be any pictures to find, no record of who we were or how we lived."

- ALEX WITTWER. MULITMEDIA JOURNALIST. **THE OBSERVER** 

## **New releases**

### **'SENJUTSU,' IRON MAIDEN (BMG)**

Iron Maiden is not a band for those with short attention spans.

Since blasting out of England in the late '70s in what would become known as the new wave of British metal, Iron Maiden has never been one to give record

companies the kind of threeminute anthems they craved.

Instead, they wrote and played (and played some more) until they were good and satisfied, and the result was often an epic track of 8-10 minutes or more.

That is particularly the case on their 17th studio album, "Senjutsu," which translates from Japanese as "strategy and tactics." It deals with Iron Maiden's obsession with war and battle, from the title track to "Darkest Hour," an

severance during World War II.

The album's 10 tracks average eight minutes apiece, and the final three last for a com-

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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