Up In The Sky... Drones Are Taking Over!
SUMMER EXHIBITIONS

Tofer Chin: 8

Amir H. Fallah: Unknown Voyage

Ryan Schneider: Mojave Masks

Liz Shepherd:
East-West: Two Streams Merging

Wednesday, June 14 through Saturday, September 9, 2017

The Summer exhibitions are funded in part by a generous donation from Judy Shih and Joel Axelrod.

MUSEUM EVENTS

Tuesday Tours:
Free Docent-led Tours of the Exhibitions
Tuesdays at 12:30 pm
Established three years ago, the Oregon Promise Grant opened the door to college for hundreds of Oregon residents. But with new restrictions added each subsequent year since its approval, this grant serves as a canary in the coal mine example of how funding is offered and can just as quickly vanish.

Slow Corpse are hometown favorites with their rich blend of studio production elements, electronic textures, and hip-hop influenced beats. But now their bass player Cole Zollinger has released a solo album. The tracks break from that mold; deeply personal minimalist ballads in the vein of early Dashboard Confessional or Bright Eyes.

Don’t Shoot the Messenger
Letters
News
Features
Our Picks
Live Music and Nightlife
Events
Sound
1
4
5
7
9
11
12
16
20

Screening an academic background in Fine Arts, a taste for film noir, a Kurosawa actor and an actress that starred with Elvis Presley, Medford-based filmmaker Ray Nomoto Robison is producing a special cinematic blend.

Food & Drink
23
Culture
24
Sports & Outdoors
26
Screen
27
Wellness
28
Free Will Astrology
29
Weed Garden
30
Rec Room
31

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Last week, Southern Oregon University announced that the new athletic pavilion will be named after the DeBoer family—as in, the family that founded and owns Lithia Motors. In 1946, in the years before car culture really expanded throughout the United States, Walt DeBoer founded the company. They only sold 14 cars that year, but since then the company has since grown to dealerships in 18 states, a multi-generational family affair, and one of Oregon's only three current Fortune 500 companies.

This isn't the DeBoer first donation to SOU. They have donated funds for art buildings and athletic scholarships. The donation is $1 million, and helps complete the ambitious sport arena for the school—and pushes forward an important step as SOU continues to try and develop as a contender. Whether by design or happenstance, like many universities, SOU seems to be pursuing a game plan of increasing its academic standing by raising the profile of its sports teams. In the past few years, the sports programs at SOU have decidedly up their game. The Raider football team went from perennial loser to national title. Cross-country and track teams have landed high marks at the national level and the new rowing team scored a gold and silver medal at national competitions this past spring.

Although SOU doesn't compete at the top Division I level, there is an established tradition that success in sports is perhaps the most efficient way to boost overall reputation and standing. For example, an appearance by a school's basketball team in March's NCAA tournament translates into a bump in application numbers.

But not everyone is happy about the DeBoer contribution. In response to the naming of the pavilion, the Messenger received a few notes and phone calls from current SOU students concerned that they were not given buy-in to the naming. One current student left a voicemail.

"Hi Ashland resident and SOU student here," the voicemail said. "The SOU Foundation decided to sell the new athletic pavilion; it's gonna be named after Lithia Motors and the DeBoer family." He added, "The student body is beside ourselves."

On a follow-up phone call with the Messenger, the student pointed out that the students were not given opportunity to voice their opinion on the name of the athletic facility, and indicated that he thought the family's politics may not jibe with the student body's sensibility.

Naming a building is a tricky proposition, especially on current college campuses, where many different persons feel strong affinities towards the facilities. The name can indicate attitudes and affiliations, and in the eyes of students, manifest whether the school is more wed to its ideals or its business necessities. Hampshire College, an esteemed eastern college, holds the liberal arts philosophy of emphasizing its students' wants over the business needs of the school. As a result, over the decades most of the buildings on campus have been named from suggestions by the students, like Malcolm X and Emily Dickinson, as opposed to names of donors. The trade-off for such idealism, however, is that Hampshire College costs upwards of $50,000 each year.

This isn't a completely new tradition. In the 19th century, for example, Andrew Carnegie donated a boatload of money to Princeton, with the caveat that the school would never host a law school and instead would build a lake for a rowing team. "The world needs more rowers, not lawyers," he is credited with saying.

Increasingly schools are relying on these large donations from benefactors as, increasingly, college tuition doesn't fully pay for the operations of a college, and universities have become needed to fold private donations into their business plan.

But perhaps the biggest lesson is that the DeBoer family is choosing generosity over greed. Especially during these times when the leading example of wealth in the United States has used his wealth to flaunt his ego, it is encouraging that a wealthy family in southern Oregon is instead using their money to build community.
RE: OUR MUSIC EDITOR

There is a LOT of music he isn’t fond of and likes to describe in rude comments, which is why I don’t bother to read his columns. Rather than “Music Editor” perhaps he should be retitled “Only Specific Kinds of Music Editor.”

-Maureen Soar

RE.: THE MENTORS

I recently learned that Johnny B’s Rockin’ Diner in Medford is scheduled to have The Mentors play on Thursday, September 7 (although they will have hopefully cancelled this show by the time you read this). The Mentors are a long-running shock band who have used the disgusting title of “Rape Rock” to describe their music. The flyer for their current tour has three masked executioners (and a little too similar looking to KKK boneheads) with guitars on their back and a gun to the head of a naked woman bent over in front of them. Their tour is titled the “Anti-Antifa Tour.” For those unfamiliar with Antifa, it is an anti-racist and anti-fascist group fighting against the rising repulsive neo-Nazi white supremacist movement and any simple double-negative understanding of “anti-anti-fascist” would clearly make The Mentors pro-fascist, or that at least the implication they seem to want to portray. This doesn’t even begin to reveal The Mentors questionable history, offensive body of work, and messed-up agenda....which we are continually assured by their apologists to be all just a decades-running big joke. Having a bit of trouble laughing? Me too, and I got a pretty twisted sense of humor. Well, the other night I found myself in Medford, so I stopped by Johnny B’s to get their story on the situation, since there was nothing posted on Johnny B’s website about the show and news of the band coming seemed unlikely to have The Mentors play on Thursday, September 7 (although they were sure to bring out the local neo-Nazi scum, as well as inciting an anti-fascist response, and therefore, probably a dangerous disaster in the making. I tried over and over to express these points, yet all I got was hostility and their misrepresentation of me, lumping everyone into the same category (“Leftist sheep”), dismissing any concerns, and “dude” repeating soundbites he no doubt learned from years of listening to the Rush Limbaugh Show. Johnny dramatically fluctuated between mockingly apologizing and open hostility, complaining that nobody came to his venue anyway, that “this valley and town sucks, and fuck them all”. He assured me that he is working with the cops to protect his venue, to allow the band to play, and to bust the Antifa people, and that he and the venue “are gonna go out in a bang”. He absurdly suggested that if I really cared about this venue, I’d be there to defend it the night of the show.

Well Johnny, you made this mess, it’ll be yours to clean up, I just hope its just a mess and nothing worse. Realizing that their minds were already made up about the show, the band, and anyone who would have a problem with it, along with their ignorant need to put me in a box, I found myself getting more and more angry, until I finally left before things escalated. It is absolutely clear to me that Johnny B’s is no longer a venue which should be supported by our community, and that Johnny is on a kamikaze mission to go down in flames. OK, fine. Hope he can handle the heat that he’s bringing on himself. I am contacting any bands I know (local and touring) that might consider playing Johnny B’s to explain the situation. Again, I am not uptight, easily offended, or into censorship (but, I also don’t accept convoluted ideas like “free speech”, because that concept and laws surrounding it are granted by an authority I reject, known as government...I believe people should say and do as they please and deal with the consequences which arise, including community backlash). And, even if people are wrong about The Mentors (which I seriously doubt), it is obvious to me that Johnny B’s, at this point, is a safe space for scumbags (neo-Nazi’s, white supremacists, misogynists, etc.) and that controversy and desperation are major motivations for Johnny. Do your own research, make up your own mind about The Mentors, but this is more than just one band with some messed-up songs (there’s plenty of those), it is the larger context that is concerning here, one Johnny seems fine exploiting. If you feel motivated by this, let Johnny B’s know what you think of The Mentors and their support of this atrocious band and the scumbags it will bring out of the woodwork and create a safe space for.

Goodbye Johnny B’s.

-Nazel Pickens

RE.: A NON-FACT CHECKED ACCUSATION

Evidently Jackson County’s Board of Commissioners has agreed to pay Medford Chamber of Commerce (MCC) $1,000 for a reserved table to receive a “Spirit of Enterprise Award” during MCC’s September 14th event at The Commons.

“They award this award to governments who (sic.) function like business,” said Administrator Danny Jordan whose taxpayer-funded “CEO
compensation has now exceeded $432K per year, slightly higher than last fiscal year’s $411K-plus compensation package.

Anyone who’s taken an economics class knows that Business is in business to, first and foremost, make a profit, yet our elected commissioners favor sucking up to the local Chamber, using our taxpayer money—but why? For a trophy-reminder of the Budget Committee’s ‘profitable’ subsidies for local businesses that would not otherwise be viable? In a true Capitalist economy, this comingling makes no sense.

Coming from Administrative staff, the recommended expense to continue supporting public-private partnerships does not square up with a true economy (one that excludes forced taxation)...so how long can our ailing private sector economy survive when comingled funds exist?

If you reside in Jackson County and think you’ve never lived under a fascistic dictatorship, you’re actually soaking in it, thanks to each of your elected commissioners.

Kevin Goodrich
Central Point

RE.: EPA
Should the EPA become the Environmental Pollution Agency or remain the Environmental Protection Agency? Do we really care about human and environmental health, or not?

This is a question our federal representatives face. The Trump Administration and Republicans in DC are promoting the pro-Pollution alternative.

Trumps’ 2018 budget proposes cutting EPA funding by 30% and staff by 20%. It also proposes compromising the air we breathe and the water we drink by cutting 50 programs that protect these essential resources.

Meanwhile, the GOP-controlled Congress plans to adjust EPA policy such that regulations become the cheapest for corporations rather than the best for protecting public and environmental health. They also plan to instruct agencies to prioritize the interests of industry (meaning profits and greed) over protection of consumers and workers.

Amazingly, even now Trump and the Congressional cabal of integrity-challenged and self-esteem lacking representatives are dedicated to the destruction of human and environmental health and the promotion of short-term profits and greed.

It’s not clear what Trump and Congressional representatives think they and their families will breathe or drink in the future. Paradoxically, or is that merely ‘insanely,’ they seem intent on poisoning their own families - all for short-term profits.

Trisha Vigil, Medford

The Rogue Valley Messenger is starting a Classifieds section!

Attention Rogue Valley: We’re inviting the community to add their voice to the Messenger with the new RVM Classifieds section! Whether you’re a small business, a venue, or an individual looking to reach out, we’ve got just the thing for you! $15 for a single sized posting and $25 for a double with discounts available for postings in multiple issues!

Here are some categories we’re considering:

- For Sale
- Wanted
- Rentals
- Service Ads
- Now Hiring
- Music Gigs
- Acting/Production Gigs
- Pet Adoption
- Cheers and jeers
- Missed Connections

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The Rough Road of Financial Aid For College

Oregon Promise Grant Narrows Eligibility

BY SARA JANE WILTERMOOD

Financial aid for college can be a tricky proposition: Loans can help pay for school, but also can dig a financial hole that takes years to get out of. It is a tricky, billion-dollar question that is limiting access to college for tens of thousands of students nationwide, and Southern Oregon is no exception.

According to Rogue Community College’s website, of the 16,420 students (including full-time enrollment, credit students and non-credit students) for the 2015-2016 school year, $23,738,651 in financial aid was awarded to 3,974 students. That is roughly one of four students.

Within that number is a specific grant that the Oregon Legislature designated three years ago to open opportunities for particularly cash-strapped students, the Oregon Promise Grant, a money-from-heaven funding with, at first, few limitations. But with new restrictions add each subsequent year since its approval, this grant serves as a canary in the coal mine example of how funding is offered and can just as quickly vanish.

Of the students at RCC seeking financial aid, just over 350 local students were able to utilize the Oregon Promise Grant for the previous school year; now that grant is now inching towards an entirely need-based eligibility.

.put in place by the Oregon State Legislature in July 2015 (Senate Bill 81) for the 2016-2017 school year, the Oregon Promise Grant offered tuition to first-year college students, the only limitations being: graduating from an Oregon high school or a GED recipient; having a 2.5 cumulative high school GPA or higher or a GED score of 145 or higher on each test; planning to attend at least half-time at an Oregon community college within six months of high school graduation or GED completion; being an Oregon resident for at least 12 months prior to attendance; filing a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or ORSAA (Oregon Student Aid Application); and, not having more than 90 college credits completed or attempted. Sounds doable, right?

But, this opportunity for funding changed for the 2017-2018 school year. Applicants for the Oregon Promise Grant were further limited by their EFC (Expected Family Contribution) to the tune of $18,000, a constraint because of an $8 million deficit in the high-demand program, according to a press release from Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission in July. The press release further fleshed out the deficit thus: “due to high turnout for the new program and limited funding to meet projected costs, new applicants entering community college this fall will see changes to eligibility requirements for the Oregon Promise.”

Sadly, there just isn’t enough green to go around. If the allotted $10 million was divided between the 45,000 Oregon high school graduates in 2015, then each student would get a paltry $222 each for their inaugural college education, according to RCC’s website; roughly enough to pay for books and supplies, but not tuition.

However, Rogue Valley recipients are protecting their piece of the pie. RCC Financial Aid Director Anna Manley reported that approximately 1200 students in the Rogue Valley were authorized for the Oregon Promise Grant for this coming school year.

“We are grateful for the resource for students,” she says. “It is a wonderful opportunity. It pays for a large part of tuition, what is not covered by the Pell Grant.” (Pell Grants are “usually awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor’s or a professional degree,” according to studentaid.ed.gov. And, “for the 2017–18 award year (July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018), the maximum Federal Pell Grant award is $5,920.”)

Recipients in the inaugural 2016-2017 school year are grandparented in for this school year, providing that they complete their FAFSA, meet RCC’s Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements, have been continuously enrolled at least half-time since time of eligibility, and have attempted fewer than 90 credits.

Another option along this same vein for Oregon community college-goers is the Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG), which is Oregon’s largest state-funded, need-based grant for college students, with nearly 40,000 students utilizing it every year. Manley added that $2.5 million was authorized for RCC students last year through the OOG.
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feature

The Fires Drone On ...

Regional Fire Fighters Waiting for the UAV Future

BY CHRISTOPHER LUCAS

The future of wilderness firefighting may include unmanned flight, but for the gritty, ridge-by-ridge work of fighting wildfires, this promising tool is still in its fledgling stage.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), also known as drones, are aircraft without human pilots onboard. The military applications of these craft are well known, as seen in the news and in the flashy movies like *Eye in the Sky*, conducting surveillance on our borders or delivering missiles in far off theaters of war.

In recent years, though, the domestic hobbyist market for drones has exploded and prospective commercial uses of the technology is creating a gold rush atmosphere. From retailers to delivery companies, from real estate and agriculture to video production and security, commercial applications have made UAVs a growth industry.

Earlier this decade, the young industry stalled out as it waited for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to announce rules governing UAVs. Finally, two summers ago, the agency released its highly anticipated order. Under the new rules, recreational drone flying must follow the FAA’s rules for model aircraft. Commercial drones are more tightly regulated: vehicles up to 55 pounds can operate only in the daytime and at speeds less than 100 mph. They must fly under 400 feet and not within 400 feet of towers or tall buildings. Operators must maintain a visual line of sight with the drone and be FAA certified, among other restrictions (see knowbeforeyoufly.org for more information). Rules for government entities are similar to commercial restrictions, but with an option to apply for a public certification with self-certifications for pilots and an ability to obtain emergency certifications.

Public safety is one of the most promising areas for drones, especially as a tool for search and rescue and firefighting. The U.S. Forest Service has used a drone in its air operations at the massive Chetco Bar fire on the Oregon coast, operated by certified pilots from the Department of Interior. Terry Krasko, of the U.S. Forest Service, told the Messenger, “We did have a rotary aircraft doing recon work in thick areas of brush out here. It was quite useful.”

The Oregon Department of Forestry, Southwest District, which responds to fires on private, industrial and BLM properties in Jackson and Josephine counties, received one small drone from the state in 2014, primarily for testing and allowing a staff member to train for his operator’s license, but it hasn’t been part of ODF’s firefighting operation. According to Melissa Cano, spokesperson for the ODF, before UAVs can become a part of their arsenal “we will need a policy fine-tuning how air operations coordinates with drones.” She told the Messenger that ODF is unlikely to deploy drones in the foreseeable future, as there is no budget for developing the policy, upgrading current equipment, or training pilots. A local district, Applegate Fire District One, has received a grant to acquire two drones, training, and FAA certification, with a goal of deploying the system in early 2018. The benefits of drones to public safety seem...
clear: fast scene assessment, with reduced risk to firefighters or pilots, better and more flexible perspectives for visual or thermal surveillance, and shorter deployment time, from arriving on scene to getting in the air. For battling wildfires in remote, rugged backcountry, drones are especially appealing. On the other hand, current protocols and procedures for aerial support in firefighting are well-established. UAV systems are very expensive, ranging thousands to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Any agency that uses drones must train pilots and obtain a certification of authorization from the FAA (in emergencies, an expedited authorization process is available.) What’s more, the public has expressed concern over violations of privacy and property rights when the police or other agencies use drones for surveillance. Agencies like the U.S. Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry don’t usually encounter these criticisms, but future policy discussions may need to address it.

Nationwide, the low cost and popularity of drones among hobbyists is presenting another problem for firefighters. Amateur flyers, lured by dramatic, aerial wildfire footage, have at times forced local fire commanders to halt air operations. Earlier this summer, a helicopter was grounded by a drone incursion into the airspace over a grass fire near Grants Pass. Such amateur incursions are prohibited by the FAA, subject to civil penalties up to $27,500 and possible criminal prosecution. The Department of Forestry encourages anyone who sees a drone over an active fire scene to call 9-1-1.

In years to come, drones will require fire agencies to develop new methods, finding ways for manned and unmanned vehicles to coexist, safely, in air operations while crews try to contain wildfires that seem to grow larger and more destructive each year.
OUR PICKS

thurs 31
Chronicles of Oggle
PERFORMANCE—Raised in an orphanage and foster care, young Pakie (short for Patrick) must navigate growing up in Ireland in the 60s and 70s, under constant watch by the Catholic Church. This Irish tale will be spun by Northern Californian Bennett Gale, the only person to have performed the piece in the U.S. 1 - 3 pm. Ashland Library, 410 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland. Free.

sat 9 — sun 10
Lake of the Woods Tri Sport Weekend
RACE—The Lake of the Woods isn’t just for lounging. It is time to ring in the fall season with a full swim/bike/run triathlon. Or, a sprint triathlon, duathlon, just swim may call some into action. Or, if summer persists, paddle and motor boat rentals are available. Lake of the Woods, 950 Harriman Route, Lake of the Woods.

sat 2 – mon 4
Labor Day Hydroplane Race
RACE—All they really are is a loud motor and some plywood, so racing them takes some serious guts. Hydroplanes take center stage for lounging. It is time to ring in the fall swell will take up the mic with Mostafa, on SUPs or in a four-person raft, this race legs from Griffin Park to Baker Park. Flag Road, Ashland. $25 – $125.

sat 9
Open: An Adoption Story
SIGNING—Open: An Adoption Story in Three Voices is written by local author Alaina O’Connell, and tells the powerful story that she experienced as the adopting parent, and how it became so much more as she developed a relationship with the birth mother. Her daughter weighs in in the final chapter with the impact on the child. 2 pm. Barnes and Noble, 1400 Biddle Road, Medford. Free.

sat 9
King of the Rogue
RACE—The Class IV Powerhouse Rapid in Gold Hill patiently waits for this year’s King and Queen of the Rogue to be named. Whether in hard kayaks, inflatable kayaks, on SUPs or in a four-person raft, this run is just begging to be conquered. Proceeds will go towards the creation of the Gold Hill Whitewater Park. 10 am – 5 pm. Gold Hill.

sunday 10
Dove Fest
MUSIC—The Newsboys have been rocking their genre since 1985, with a few changes in the lineup, though they all seemed to work out well, as they are currently led by former New Grass member Michael Tait. Also part of this concert is former Newsboys front man Peter Furler, and Ryan Steven son. 5 pm. Outdoor Amphitheater at the Expo, 1 S. Peninger Road, Central Point. $25 – $125.

wed 6
Wine and Wildflowers Hike
HIKE—What could be better than a lovely afternoon hike to Grouse Gap on Mt. Ashland? Going with NPSO and Adopt a Botanical Area and sipping some wine along the way. Wildflowers come included along the hike; bring your own wine. Meet at KS Wild at 3 pm to carpool, return by 7 pm. KS Wild, 993 Siskiyou Blvd. #1, Ashland.

wed 13
Turkuaz
MUSIC—What they don’t have in funk, they make up for in colorful outfits, but they have both in spades. As evidenced by their new album, “Digitonium,” a visual video that has had two million views, and providing music at New York Knicks games, this Brooklyn group is just getting warmed up. 7:30 pm. Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland. $20 – 25.

MUSIC
Freedom in the Forest
fri 1 – mon 4
Freedom in the Forest
MUSIC—Feel free to head out to the forest of Cave Junction and enjoy food, camping and most importantly, the music: Step It Up N Go, Strings Broken Band, Source of All Sorrows, Sit Kitty Sit and more, and that’s just on Friday! Starts at 12 pm on Sep 1, 7901 Caves Highway, Cave Junction. Ages 12 and under free.

sunday 10
Digisaurus
MUSIC—Originally from London, England, James Allison has been playing piano since the age of six, though he has come a long way from practicing his scales. Now based out of LA and touring his electro pop/rock with bands like Weezer and Crystal Castles, his most recent EP is titled “I Don’t Feel Alright.” 8 pm. The Haul, 121 SW H Street, Grants Pass.

MUSIC
Digisaurus
fri 1
Broken Trains
ART—At first thought, it seems that a broken train wouldn’t be very useful, but multimedia performer Bruce Bayard, uses them in his audio visual collage, along with clouds, trees and shadows to create an electronic soundscape with a live soundtrack. Bayard also recently presented the film Elegies at AIFF. 8 pm. Project Space, 106 Talent Avenue, Suite 5. Talent. $15.

MUSIC
Broken Trains
fri 1 & sat 2
Digisaurus
MUSIC—Spun by Northern Californian Bennett Gale, the only person to have performed the piece in the U.S. 1 - 3 pm. Ashland Library, 410 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland. Free.

MUSIC
Digisaurus
SAT 9
Open: An Adoption Story
SIGNING—Open: An Adoption Story in Three Voices is written by local author Alaina O’Connell, and tells the powerful story that she experienced as the adopting parent, and how it became so much more as she developed a relationship with the birth mother. Her daughter weighs in in the final chapter with the impact on the child. 2 pm. Barnes and Noble, 1400 Biddle Road, Medford. Free.
LIVE MUSIC and Nightlife

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017

ASHLAND
John Hollis - Callahan’s Mountain Lodge - 6 to 9 pm.

JOE COHOON TRIO - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

JESSICA FICHOT - French Chanson, Shanghai Jazz and International Folk. This is their first season at the OSF Green Show - 6:30 pm - Free.

THE BFA READINGS - Enjoy past and present SOU students’ readings of original poetry, prose, fiction and other works of creative writing - 7 to 9 pm - No cover, minors welcome. Show up early for sign-ups - Sponsored by Craig Wright, second and last Thursdays monthly - Caldrea Tap House.

FRANKIE HERNANDEZ - The Wild Goose - 8 pm.

DART TOURNAMENT - The Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant - 7:30 pm - $5 cover.

OPEN MIC - Artistry Bloom Thursdays at Granite Taphouse. Sign up for open mic and enter the Granite’s monthly contest, Artistry Bloom, where an artist will be featured as a paid performer! 9 pm, hosted by local author Sphera Sol Cloudancer.

TRIVIA NIGHT - Hosted by Miriam Lanning, Thursdays at Smithfields Pub & Pies - 8 to 10 pm.

GRANTS PASS
Darby Doll’s Burlesque Bingo - The theme is ’80s Neon Glow’ - The Sound Lounge - 7 to 9 pm - $5.

KARAOKE NIGHT - Thursdays at The Whammy Bar - 8 pm.

JACKSONVILLE
The House That Music Built - Habitat for Humanity presents a benefit concert in the Brit Performance Garden, featuring well-known local bands and special guest performer, Bill Hahey. Bill is the future homeowner of Habit House #63 and will be performing with band, Milestone In-Review. 100% of the proceeds from this concert will go to the cost of construction for Bill’s home. 6 to 9 pm - $30 per person.

TC AND THE REACTIONS - Red Lily Vineyards - 6 to 8 pm.

PHILLIP REED - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

KERRY
OPEN MIC - Thursdays at The G Spot Fine Bar & Grill - 7 pm.

MEDFORD
David Ouellette - Thursday mornings at Limestone Coffee - 9:30 am.

Matt Brown - Pear Blossom Park at The Commons - 7 to 8 pm.

Reagan Young - Yoga - 9 pm.

Sit Kitty Sit / Haywood Macabe / The Coffins - The Bamboo Room at King Wah’s - 9:45 pm.

DJ Jim - 80’s. Alternative and Dance Night - Thursdays at Hooeie’s On Front - 9 pm until close - No cover.

Karaoke Under The Stars - Hosted by Breezy at The Bahamian Club - 9:30 pm.

WHITE CITY
JON GALFANO - Kriselle Cellars - 5 to 7 pm - No cover charge.

WILLIAMS
OPEN MIC - Thursdays at Cocina - 7 to 7 to 10 pm.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

ASHLAND
First Friday Silent Disco - Silent Disco in the Park returns, and they’ve doubled the number to available headsets (new 2000!) It’s all ages and family-friendly. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Heartland Foundation and Heartland Youth Center. $5 donation. 5 to 11 pm.

John Hollis - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.

Not Too Shabby - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

Rick Millward - Pop, rock and folk - Enoteca - 6 to 8 pm.

The Rogue Suspects - Grizzly Peak Winery. Show at 6:30 pm. $6 admission. Food trucks on site at 5:30 pm. Blankets and chairs welcome, no pets.

David Scoggin - The Wild Goose - 6 pm - Karaoke with Will at 8:30 pm.

The Dregges - Original music from the house band of OSF’s Timan Oth Athens. This is their first season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

OPEN MIC - Artistry Bloom Thursday at Granite Taphouse, hosted by local author Sphera Sol Cloudancer. Sign up for open mic and be entered into monthly contest, Artistry Bloom, in which an artist will be featured as a paid performer at Granite. 9 pm.

The Brothers Reed / Redwood Son - Full band at Brickroom - 9 pm to midnight - $10 at the door.

Medford
David Ouellette - Thursday mornings at Limestone Coffee - 9:30 am.

Matt Brown - Pear Blossom Park at The Commons - 7 to 8 pm.

Reagan Young - Yoga - 9 pm.

Frankie Hernandez Band - The Cedarwood Saloon - 9 pm to 1 am.

Holus Bolus and Iconoplasty - Holus Bolus is one person, multi-instrumentalist Tom Baylan. Referred to as the ‘One-Man-Psychdelic-Acousti-loop’ artist. Iconoplasty is loop-peed electro-wizardry. Like a DJ without a D. Your new favorite band. It’s not a one-piece; it’s a ‘unitard.’ The Sound Lounge - 9 pm to midnight - Free admission.

Jacksonville
Ur Mom - South Stage Cellars - 6 to 8 pm.

Seth Hansson - Music in the Bergarten at Frau Kemmeling Schoolhaus Brehwas - 7 to 9 pm.

Charles Guy & Sonido Alegre - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

Medford
Live Music - Happy Hour at Lark’s Restaurant - 4 to 6 pm.

Jeff Kleetz - Dancin Vineyards - 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

221 Fly - Roxy Ann Winery - 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Armed for Apocalypse/Friction Kids / Cathedral Hills / Lizard Kingdom - The Bamboo Room at King Wah’s - Show starts at 7 pm, $3 cover until 9 pm, all ages until 10 pm.

TGTG - Positive Energy World Tour. Latest album “Become the Tidal Wave” represents freedom. “Put distractions to the side and follow your dreams. Our dream is to travel the world and spread positivity, not ‘make it big in the industry.’ If you have a passion, make sure you set time for it. Much love!” - Johnny B’s - 9 pm to 1 am.

Live Music - Live music every Friday & Saturday at Pier 21 - 9 pm to 1 am.

Chadwicks Pub & Sports Bar - Show starts at 9 pm - $10 cover.

JACKSONVILLE
Brian Rising - Apple Outlaw Tasting Room - 1:30 to 4 pm.

Jeff Kleetz - South Stage Cellars - 6 to 8 pm - $10 cover by Pamo’s.

Daughtery - Daughtery has sold over 8.2 million albums and 16 million singles worldwide. Brit Festival. 7:30 pm. Gates 6 pm. Res. $67, Lawn $44, Child Lawn $34.

Guest Artist is Elvis Monroe. Pre-concert music at 6 pm by Alphalux.

Charles Guy & Sonido Alegre - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

MEDFORD
Back Patio BBQ - Music by DJ Dysfunktion - Every Saturday at Grape Street Bar and Grill - 12 to 4 pm.

Ideal Team - Howiee’s on Front - 9 pm to 1 am.

Chadwicks Comedy Night - Headliner: Spencer James - Opener: Chase Brockett - Chadwicks Pub & Sports Bar - Show starts at 9 pm - $10 cover.

KraNK iT Up KARAOKE - Pit Stop Tavern (and Barkley’s Bar in Phoenix) - 9 pm.

Selma
The Herbal Crew - 2 rams of music at The Smoking Dog - Music at 9 pm - $7, $10 at the door, 21 and over.

Talent
Ciera Cox - Eclectic Pop - Talent Evening Market - 6 to 8 pm - Food Trucks, weather permitting.

Saturday, September 2

Ashland
Polson, Hirsh & Miller - Jazz trio at La Baguette Cafe Music - 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Gitian Del Norte - Weisinger Family Winery - 2 to 5 pm.

Gypsy Soul - 20 year celebration anniversary of Gypsy Soul at Grizzly Peak Winery, with special musical guest appearances! 7 to 9 pm. Concert only $25, doors at 7 pm ($40 with meet & greet plus appetizers, doors at 6 pm).

Tim Church - Saturdays at Standing Stone Brewing Company - 5:30 pm.

Rod Petrone - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

Ken Hart - Callahan’s Mountain Lodge - 6 to 9 pm.

Jessica Fichot - OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

The Sky System - Music in the Cashab zone at the Jackson WellSprings - $10 suggested donation.

Karaoke with Queen Bee - The Wild Goose - 8:30 pm.

Landon Wordswell & Mostafa - Hip-Hop at Brickroom - 9 pm to 2 am - $5 cover, 21 and over.

Dancing Queens - Out Of This World - Monthly LGBTQ+ Dance Party at The Vinyl Club. Hostess is Debbie Dale. Guest Queen is Natasha Blackwell. 9 pm to 2 am. $5. “Drag shows on the hour all night...unless Agents Mulder and Scully run our evil plans!! “If you don’t understand that X-Files reference, we still love you.”

Dj Sylvah Sol - Old School Hip Hop and Neo-Trap on Saturdays at Granite Taphouse - 10 pm.

Cave Junction

Central Point
Lumina With Lynne Reardon - Music every Saturday & Sunday, May - September at Caprice Vineyards - 2 to 5 pm.

Grants Pass

Frankie Hernandez Band - The Cedarwood Saloon - 9 pm to 1 am.

Refresh - Dj Touch, Joe-E, and Simon Soreal at The Sound Lounge - 9:30 pm to 12:30 am - Free.

Jacksonville
Brian Rising - Apple Outlaw Tasting Room - 1:30 to 4 pm.

Jeff Kleetz - South Stage Cellars - 6 to 8 pm - $10 cover by Pamo’s.

Daughtery - Daughtery has sold over 8.2 million albums and 16 million singles worldwide. Brit Festival. 7:30 pm. Gates 6 pm. Res. $67, Lawn $44, Child Lawn $34.

Guest Artist is Elvis Monroe. Pre-concert music at 6 pm by Alphalux.

Charles Guy & Sonido Alegre - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

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Selma
The Herbal Crew - 2 rams of music at The Smoking Dog - Music at 9 pm - $7, $10 at the door, 21 and over.

Talent
Ciera Cox - Eclectic Pop - Talent Evening Market - 6 to 8 pm - Food Trucks, weather permitting.
ROGUE RIVER
JIM LESHER & THE WESTERN EXPRESS - Classic Rock - Live music every Saturday night at Homestead Pub - 9 pm to 1 am - No cover.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
ASHLAND
BOB RAWLINGS & ALAN BERMAN TRIO - Belle Fiore Winery - 12 to 2 pm.
CELTIC MUSIC SESSION - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant - 2 pm.
BETH AND CRAIG MARTIN - Weisinger Family Winery - 2 to 5 pm.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
ASHLAND
KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.
PAUL SCHMELING TRIO - Jazz - Martino’s Restaurant - 7 pm.
OPEN MIC - Oberon’s Tavern - Sign up at 8:30 pm, music and more at 9 pm to 11 - No cover.
ROBBIE DACOSTA & FRIENDS - Mondays at Smithfields Pub & Pies - 8 to 11 pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
ASHLAND
KENT HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.
PAUL TURNIPSEED - Jazz every Monday at Lark’s Restaurant - 4:30 to 6 pm.
TRIVIA NIGHT - “Geeks Who Drink” Pub Trivia at Bricktowne Brewing Company - 7 pm.
TRIVIA NIGHT - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - 7:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
ASHLAND
KENT HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.
THE BROTHERS REED - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

PHOENIX
OPEN MIC - Hosted by Taurie Michele at The Phoenix Clubhouse - 7 to 10 pm - Free, all ages, all talents.
McFadden, Lisa Spencer, Karen Wennlund, KAREN LOVELY
- held on the evening of vibrant, energetic, family fun hip-hop dance. This is their third season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
ASHLAND
DAVID SCOGGIN - The Wild Goose - 6 pm - Karaoke with Will at 8:30 pm.
PAUL TURNIPSEED TRIO - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
ASHLAND
SOLD OUT SHOW
RON WHITE IS AT THE BRITT ON SEPTEMBER 7 - SOLD OUT SHOW

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
ASHLAND
JOHN HOLLIS - Callahan's Lodge - 6 pm.
DAVID PINKSY & PHIL NEUTON - Blues at Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE MUSICIANS - Pieces for viola da gamba, lute and vocals. This is their first season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

CENTRAL POINT
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Pizza Schmizza - 9 pm.

GRANTS PASS
ECSTATIC DANCE - Featuring DJ Kensi at Candela Dance Studio. 7:30 to 9:30 pm - $10.

JACKSONVILLE
RON WHITE - Comedian Ron “Tater Salad” White and guest artist Alex Reymundo, a Mexican-American comedian and actor, who was featured on the 2007 ALMA Awards. He was born in Acapulco, Mexico, where he lived until his family moved to Texas in the United States where he lived from the age of two to twenty-two. He lived in Kentucky for seven years. Reymundo is married and has two children, a boy and a girl. Brit Festival. Show starts at 8 pm. Gates open at 6 pm. Pre-concert music by Hog Wild, 6 pm. Concert is Sold Out.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
ASHLAND
DAVID SCOGGIN - The Wild Goose - 6 pm - Karaoke with Will at 8:30 pm.

TALENT
AGOC YOUTH TALENT & VARIETY SHOW - Folk / Light Rock / Pop - Archangel Gabriel Orthodox Church Youth Talent & Variety Show, live in St. John’s Park at the Talent Evening Market - 6 to 8 pm - Free admission.

KAREN LOVELY - Blues at Agate Ridge Winery - 5 to 7 pm - $30 per person includes dinner by Dancing Cats Catering. Call Jeff at 541-261-8631 to purchase tickets.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
ASHLAND
SAVANNA - Weissingers Family Winery - 2 to 5 pm.
TIM CHURCH - Saturdays at Standing Stone Brewing Company - 5:30 pm.
KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.
GRANT RUZI & DANNY HENDRICKSON - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

REWIND - Classic Rock - J’Ville Tavern - 9 pm to midnight.

MEDFORD
Live Music - Happy Hour at Lark’s Restaurant - 4:30 to 6 pm.
JEFF K AND THE OVERTONES - Roxie Ann Winery - 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
ALLISON SCULL & VICTOR MARTIN - Dancin Vineyards - 5:30 to 7:30 pm.
DAVID PINKSY & PHIL NEUTON - Blues at RoxyAnn Winery - 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

WHITE CITY
RICK MILLWARD - Kriselle Cellars - 5 to 7 pm.
WILLIAMS
OPEN MIC - Thursdays at The Whammy Bar - 8 pm.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
ASHLAND
DAVID SCOGGIN - The Wild Goose - 6 pm - Karaoke with Will at 8:30 pm.
PAUL TURNIPSEED TRIO - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

JOHN HOLLIS - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.
VERSALY STYLED DANCE COMPANY - An evening of vibrant, energetic, family fun hip-hop dance. This is their third season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

EAGLE POINT
THE FRESH DRIFTERS - Agate Ridge Vineyard - 6 to 9 pm - General admission $8, Wine Club admission $5.
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Fridays at Pizza Schmizza - Starts at 8:30 pm - Minors allowed to stay and sing until 10 pm.
GRANTS PASS
T.J. ELTON - Schmidt Family Vineyards - 5 to 8 pm.
DAWNA CROCKER, BRANDON DANNALS, MADDY JOY - Singer/songwriters at The Sound Lounge - 9:30 pm to 12:30 am - Free admission.
JACKSONVILLE
SON RAVELLO - South Stage Cellars. Music 6 to 8 pm.
PETE HERZOZ & SNAKEFAT - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

LIVE MUSIC and Nightlife
LIVE MUSIC and Nightlife

SEPTEMBER 13 - TURKUAZ VISITS ASHLAND

RODNEY GARDINER - Original soul music, “unplugged.” This is his third season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

KARAOKE WITH QUEEN BRE - The Wild Goose - 8:30 pm.

DANIELLE KELLY TRIO - Smithfields Pub & Pies - 9 to 11:30 pm.

DJ SYLVAN SOL - Saturdays - Old School Hip Hop and Neo-Trap at Granite Taphouse - 10 pm.

CENTRAL POINT
LEE STEWART - Music every Saturday & Sunday, May - September at Caprice Vineyards - 2 to 5 pm.

GRANTS PASS
THROUGH THE SKY / THE REBELTONES - Rock at The Sound Lounge - 9:30 pm to 2 am - Free admission.

AKA FACELESS - The Haul - 9 to 11 pm.

JACKSONVILLE
TORNADO Ripe - Roger Lemstrom and Alissa Weaver at South Stage Cellars. Music 6 to 8 pm. $10 dinner from Pomadori’s.

ROGUE SUSPECTS TRIO - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 pm.

MEDFORD
BACK PATIO BBQ - Music by DJ Dysfunktion - Every Saturday at Grape Street Bar and Grill - 12 to 4 pm.

BEARAXE - Johnny B’s - 9 pm - $5.


KRAKIN IT UP KARAOKE - Pit Stop Tavern - 9 pm.

DJ CHUCK - Every Saturday night at The Edge Nightclub and Patio - 10 pm.

LIVE MUSIC - Live music every Friday & Saturday night at Pier 21 Tavern - 9 pm to 1 am - No cover.

ROGUE RIVER
MIDNIGHT PARTY BAND - Classic Rock - Live music and dancing every Saturday night at Homestead Pub - 9 pm to 1 am - No cover.

TALENT BAND DU PAYS - Swing music at Paschal Winery. Swing Dance lesson starts at 7 pm. Music 7:30 to 9:30 pm. $10 at the door.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
ASHLAND
JON GALFANO - Belle Fiore Winery - 12 to 2 pm.

CELTIC MUSIC SESSION - Live at the Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant - 2 pm.

ALLEN CRUTCHER - Weisgerber Family Winery - 2 to 5 pm.

GAIBE CARROLL - Belle Fiore Winery - 5 to 7 pm.

KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.

THE CORNER BOYS - Oberon’s - 6 to 9 pm.

VERSA-STYLE DANCE COMPANY - OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

JIM QUINBY - 6-8 pm, plus Little Thom’s Open Mic with Dave Hampton at 8-11 pm - The Wild Goose.

CENTRAL POINT
T.J. ELTON - Music every Saturday & Sunday, May - September at Caprice Vineyards - 2 to 5 pm.

GOLD HILL
DANIELLE KELLY DUO - Music on Sundays afternoons at Del Rio Vineyards, through September 10. 3 to 5 pm.

JACKSONVILLE
LIVE MUSIC - Jacksonville Farmers Market. 1:30 am to 1 pm. All ages, no cover.

SETH HANSSON - Sunday afternoon music series at Valley View Winery, May through September - 2 to 5 pm - No cover, all ages.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
ASHLAND
KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.

BEN HUNTER AND JOE SEAMONS - Grizzly Peak Winery - 7 to 9 pm - $20.

PAUL SCHMELING TRIO - Martino’s Restaurant - 7 pm.

OPEN MIC - Oberon’s Tavern - Sign up at 8:30 pm, music and more at 9 pm - No cover.

ROBBIE DACOSTA & FRIENDS - Mondays at Smithfield’s Pub & Pies - 8 to 11 pm.

MEDFORD
INDUSTRY NIGHT - Jefferson Spirits - Happy Hour every night 4 to 6 pm, 20% for all Service Industry employees on Mondays!

HAPPY HOUR & LIVE MUSIC - Lark’s Restaurant - 4:30 to 7 pm.

TRIVIA NIGHT - “Geeks Who Drink” Pub Trivia at ‘BricktownE’ Brewing Company - 7 pm.

TRIVIA NIGHT - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - 7:30 pm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
ASHLAND
KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.

AUDITION FOR SISKIYOU SINGERS - First United Methodist Church, 175 N Main St. 6:30 pm.

STEPHANIE ANNE JOHNSON - Americana originals and covers. This is her first season at the OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

TRIVIA NIGHT - Louie’s Restaurant - 7 pm - Free to play, plus prizes!

PETER SERKIN - SOU Tuttonov Piano Series at the Music Recital Hall - 7:30 pm - Regular admission is $20. Student tickets must be purchased in person or by phone at 541-552-6348.

KARAOKE - Hosted by Legendary-Oke at Smithfield’s Pub & Pies - 9 to 11:30 pm.

CENTRAL POINT
KARAOKE TUESDAYS - The Corner Club - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE
JOHN BUTLER TRIO / NATTALI RIZE - Britt Festival. 7 pm. Res. $49, Lawn $39, Child Lawn $29. Pre-concert music by Wonder begins in the Britt Performance Garden at 6 pm. Gates open at 6 pm. No outside alcohol allowed. You may print your tickets at home or use your phone! OPEN JAM - Hosted by T.J. Elton. Tuesdays at the J’ville Tavern - 7 pm - No cover.

ROBBIE DACOSTA & FRIENDS - Mondays at Smithfield’s Pub & Pies - 8 to 11 pm.

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TALENT MIKE DILLON BAND - The Talent Club - 9 pm to midnight.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
APPLEGATE
DIRTY REVIVAL - “Get ready for the Funk” - Applegate River Lodge - 9 pm - $13 at the door.

ASHLAND
KEN HART - Callahan’s Lodge - 6 pm.

BEAR CREEK JAZZET - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.

PHOENIX AND FOUR DIRECTIONS - OSF Green Show - 6:45 pm - Free.

FREE POOL - “Get ready for the Funk” - The Wild Goose - Free Pool from 6 pm to midnight on Wednesdays.

BAND DU PAYS - Swing music at Liquid Assets Wine Bar - 8:30 to 10:30 pm.

THOMPSON SPRINGS - Oberon’s - 7 pm.

GRANTS PASS
KARAOKE WITH BREEZY - Wednesdays at Stitches Bar & Grill - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE
JEFF KLOETZEL - Wine ‘n’ Dine at South Stage Cellars - Music 6 to 8 pm. Reserve your $10 dinners online.

MEDFORD
LIVE MUSIC - Happy Hour at Lark’s Restaurant - 4:30 to 6 pm.

TRIVIA NIGHT - Howiee’s On Front - 7 to 10 pm - No cover.

TRIVIA NIGHT - Portal Brewing Company - 7:30 pm.

PHOENIX
OPEN MIC & JAM - Hosted by Debbie Dale at The Phoenix Clubhouse - 7 to 10 pm - Drumms, amps, keyboard and more available for use - Free, all ages.

Playing a show? Let us know! Email: events@roguevalleymessenger.com
BROKEN TRAINS
Bruce Bayard, a visual artist turned multimedia performer, has been exploring the merger of time-based image collage with improvised electronic soundscapes. Broken Trains is an audio visual collage featuring the rhythmic sight and sounds of trains, clouds, trees and shadows. Bruce pairs these images with live soundtrack performed by the rafters on Buchla, an early synthesizer. Performances are September 1 and 2, 8 pm both nights. Tickets are $15; purchase at www.artprojectspace.com. Project Space, 106 Talent Ave, Talent.

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK
Friday, September 1, from 5 - 8 pm. Stroll the galleries and take in the visual delights in downtown Ashland and the Historic Railroad District during Ashland Gallery Association's First Friday Art Walk. Enjoy this free year-round community event, filled with a diverse array of artwork, live music, artist demonstrations, refreshments and lively conversation. For more information and to download the Gallery Tour map visit www.AshlandGalleries.com.

HOT PALETTE
Diane Jean Erickson is a painter, printmaker and encaustic (hot wax) artist producing works of art both personal and universal in their nature. "Each day working in my studio I start not knowing what image will emerge. I allow myself the freedom of indecisions, improvisations, and improvisations in my work, and that leads to exciting discoveries." Exhibition runs August 4 - September 15, 2017. First Friday Live: Sept 1, 5 - 9 pm. Free admission. Grants Pass Museum of Art, 229 SW G St. Visit gpmmuseum.com.

WOOD HOUSE HARVEST
Saturday, September 16 (9:5 pm) and 17 (9-4 pm). There will be antique vendors, woodworkers, crafters, Our Tractor Guys, and we at the Wood House, 12988 OR Hwy 62, Eagle Point. Admission is $2 for adults, $1 for Seniors and kids ages 7-12, age 6 and under free. Email woodhouseeventplanning@gmail.com. Set up is on September 15, starting at 9 am.

OPEN HOUSE & ROGUE BUZZWAY FUNDRAISER
Saturday, September 16, from 4 - 7:30 pm. Beyond Toxics, Pollinator Project Rogue Valley, and Center for Creative Change are proud to announce the opening of their new office in Phoenix. All are invited to their Open House to welcome Beyond Toxics to the Valley. Come learn about our first-ever Rogue Buzzway map project! Live music by The Maybe Sometime. 107 West 1st Street, Phoenix. Free admission.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP DAY
Saturday, September 23, from 10 am - 3 pm. Current and would-be dog owners are invited to share knowledge, have fun, and celebrate the unconditional love we receive from our canine companions. The event includes a breed parade, to share knowledge, have fun, and celebrate the unconditional love we receive from our canine companions. The event includes a breed parade, with all the accoutrements. Brunch entrees and champagne cocktails available for purchase. Family-friendly. Free admission. ByGeorge Farm, Jacksonville.

BYGEORE OPEN FARM OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, September 24, from 10 am - 3 pm. 3rd annual Open House includes farm tours, calf petting, lamb games and crafts, and activities for kids. Kids-friendly. Salmon Creek includes a broad range of activities connected with all the accoutrements. Bring entrees and refreshments available for purchase. Free admission. ByGeorge Farm, Jacksonville.

AUCTION FOR SIKSIYOU SINGERS
If you have basic music sight-reading skills and enjoy singing, Siksiyou Singers would love to hear from you...and so would our audiences! Siksiyou Singers is a Southern Oregon community choir that performs a wide variety of the world's music, classical and contemporary. Auditions for the Fall 2017 season will be on September 5 and 12, 6:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 175 N Main St, Ashland. For more information: siksiyousingers.org.

FREE CANINE GOOD CITIZEN Classes
Wednesday, September 6, 9 - 10 am, or 10 - 11 am. The Rogue Valley Kennel Club presents four free classes to get you and your dog ready for the Canine Good Citizen Test which will be offered on September, Wednesday, 20 from 6 - 7 pm. There is a small fee for the best. The location is Riverside Park by the Rose Garden, Grants Pass.

SOUTHERN OREGON VETERANS STAND-DOWN EVENT
Wednesday, September 13, from 10 am - 2 pm. This event features vendors, workshops, crafters, and entertainment. Oregon DMV, VA eligibility, Veterans benefits office, mental health services, free haircuts, lunch and refreshments, and much more. Clothing is needed. Donation drop off sites include RVCC, 610 N Pine St in Medford, Rogue River VFW, and Medford American Legion. The event will be at the VA G200C, 845 Crater Lake Hwy, White City, OR. For more information please contact Bob Huff at 541-601-9283, huffe404@gmail.com, or Mike Whitfield at 541-821-0532, MMWhitfield@rivrcc.edu.

Rogue Gem & Geology Club Spring Show
Saturday, September 2, from 8 am - 2:30 pm. The Grants Pass Rogue Gem & Geology Club members are hosting their annual yard sale, with 14 families participating. There will be rocks, rough and finished slabs, hand-crafted jewelry, woodworking and hand tools, crafter's tools, a wide selection of lapidary items and rock equipment and much more! 1003 Isham Street (off of 6 Street, near Oak & Demmick) in Grants Pass.

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Wednesday, September 13, from 10 am - 2 pm. This event features vendors, workshops, crafters, and entertainment. Oregon DMV, VA eligibility, Veterans benefits office, mental health services, free haircuts, lunch and refreshments, and much more. Clothing is needed. Donation drop off sites include RVCC, 610 N Pine St in Medford, Rogue River VFW, and Medford American Legion. The event will be at the VA G200C, 845 Crater Lake Hwy, White City, OR. For more information please contact Bob Huff at 541-601-9283, huffe404@gmail.com, or Mike Whitfield at 541-821-0532, MMWhitfield@rivrcc.edu.

EVENTS
TASTE OF HARRY & DAVID
Sat & Sun, Sept 2 - 3, from 11 am - 6 pm each day. It's the 15th Anniversary of Taste of Harry & David in Southern Oregon! Savour the best local food, wine and beer during Labor Day Weekend, plus live music and Harry & David samples. Admission is free, which includes wine, beer, and food samples. Visit www.harryande david.com/medford for tickets.

SOUTHERN OREGON BREW FEST
Friday - Sunday, September 15-17. This family friendly event features BBQ, live music, vendors and free kids zones! Friday 5 - 9 pm: Tri-Tip. Saturday 12 - 4 pm: Pulled Pork. Sunday 12 - 3 pm: Chili. Parking and admission are free. Craft beer and wine will be available for purchase. Visit www.sobrewfest.com for details.

ASHLAND DEATH CAFE
Thursday, September 14, 7 pm. Explore how death can inform and inspire the way we live. Come together in a relaxed setting to discuss death, drink tea, and eat sweets. $10 suggested donation. Space limited, registration required. Visit AshlandDeathCafe.com.

QUILTS & GENEALOGY
Tuesday, September 26. The fourth Tuesday of each month from 10 am - 3 pm, at the Jackson County Genealogical Society, 121 W Second St. Info: 541-535-1119.

ASHLAND MARKETS

ASHLAND CHEESE CLUB
Monday, 8 pm. Free and open to Cheese players of all levels. Diamond Medical, 1020 Knottson St. (off Biddle Blvd). Meet! Eat! Boop! Tabletop Gaming Gathering

WESO NETWORKING EVENT
Thursday, September 14, from 5:30 - 8 pm. Members and non-members are invited to Women Entrepreneurs of Southern Oregon’s (WESO) networking event to kick-off their new year of programs. Meet new business contacts and learn more about each other’s products and services. There will be an informal buffet plus door prizes. Register at www.wesoevents.org/event-2616082 or call Carol Vandall at 541-292-6326. Members pay $14 online, $17 by phone (Non-members $19 / $22). Rogue Regency Inn & Suites, 2300 Biddle Rd, Medford.

LEO BUILDERS & MAKERS
Saturday, September 30, from 10 am - 3 pm. First Sundays monthly, Lego Builders & Makers is a workshop for kids ages 4 and older. There is a $5 charge per kid. Parents and adults can join in and participate for free. Come explore Legos as an art form at the Ashland Art Center classroom; 357 E Main St.

HOW TO CATCH A MONSTER STORYTIME
Saturday, September 9, 11 am. Is there a monster in your closet? Are you brave enough to catch him?

GRANTS PASS AREA GROWERS MARKETS

SOMETHING TO HOWL ABOUT
Tuesday, September 5, 7 pm. Trinidad, a streetwise mutt, finds communicating with humans and her pedigreed neighbor a big chunk of grit in her life. What she lacks in pedigree she more than makes up for in pluck, nosing out the most from each day. We humans can’t help our limitations, but dogs see all too clearly that we’re too busy to use our full potential. Trinidad also reveals, despite insults and even past abuse, how

September 10, Enjoy the Second Annual Harvest Dinner on Oak Street
At the intersection of four distinct bioregions, for the primary purpose of protecting biodiversity. Siskiyou is the first and only monument designated for the primary purpose of protecting biodiversity. Its purpose is to maintain a joyful spirit. "Thought provoking, intelligent and touching... Ms. Morley paints an insightful and, at times, poignant picture of the dog perspective. Her story gives hope that with patience and a little luck, our best friend might still be able to teach us a few new tricks." — Andy Bacon, author, Racing Yesterday. Most author Diana Morley at Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland. Free admission.

**[P]** OPEN - AN ADOPTION STORY IN THREE VOICES
Friday, September 8, 7-8 pm. Open is a story of open adoption. It speaks to anyone who has adopted a child, has or wants to adopt a child, or who is contemplating giving a child up for adoption. Open brings an honest humanity to the people affected by open adoption, revealing the fragility and courage of the human spirit. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland. Free admission.

**[P]** BOOK SIGNING AT BARNES & NOBLE
Saturday, September 9, 2-5 pm. Meet local author Alana O’Connell, author of the book Open: An Adoption Story In Three Voices, at this special book signing event. "It begins as a love story about a new marriage and the wish to adopt a child, but it quickly becomes another kind of love story between the birth mother and me. The final chapter is written by my daughter as a testimony to the power of open adoption." Barnes & Noble, 1400 Biddle Rd, Medford.

**TRANSFORMING YOUR INNER CRITIC INTO AN INNER COACH**
Monday, September 11, 7 pm. Author Nando Rainey will be discussing the key ideas and reading from his workbook, Transforming Your Inner Critic into an Inner Coach: Practical Self-Compassion. A local psychotherapist and teacher, Rainey is well known for the personable and humorous style of his experiential presentations. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland. Free admission.

**EXPLORE THE CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT**
Wednesday, September 13, from 6:30 - 8 pm. Recognized as one of the most significant biological crossroads in western North America, the Cascade-Siskiyou is the first and only monument designated for the primary purpose of protecting biodiversity. At the intersection of four distinct bioregions, harboring many rare species including some of the highest diversities of butterflies in North America, it attracts world-wide scientists and naturalists. Come learn more about this incredible resource and why it is important to preserve it. Admission is free. REI, 85 Rossanley Dr, Medford.

**DEARDEST MINNIE: A SAILOR'S STORY**
Thursday, September 14, 7 pm. After many years of researching museums, libraries and the internet, Dearest Minnie, traveling with Teddy Roosevelt’s Great White Fleet through Postcards, is complete. This period of history is narrated by a sailor aboard the U.S.S. Virginia, as he writes to his sweetheart back home while sailing around the world in 1907-1909. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland. Free admission.

**HOW EMFS CAN IMPACT HEALTH**
Thursday, September 14, from 7-8 pm. Dr. Martin L. Pall, Professor Emeritus in Biochemistry and Medical Sciences from Washington State University will discuss how EMFs (electromagnetic fields) from wireless devices have the potential to cause health issues — including the smart/radio frequency electric meter fields that are being installed on all homes and businesses in Oregon. Dr. Pall has worked in the field of environmental medicine since 2000. He will discuss the mechanism by which EMFs impact the human body at the cellular level. Be informed! Take control of your health! Phoenix Grange, 209 N Main St, Phoenix. Free.

**BILINGUAL HIKE / CAMINATA BILINGUE**
Saturday, September 2, 9 am - 2 pm. All are welcome to come join Unite Oregon (Rogue Valley Chapter) and Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center for an exciting collaboration hike. Come learn about the birds, pollinators, and plants that live at Mt. Ashland. All kids are welcome for a unique adventure at the Oregon Biological Station! For information, help with registration, and fundraising guidance, get in touch with Jessica Zigenis: JessicaZigenis@also.org or 541-481-5792. Visit Southern Oregon WalksToDefeatALS.org.

**CYCLE ANALYSIS CYCLOCROSS**
Saturday, September 14, from 5:45 - 9 pm. Have you ever seen a Cyclocross Race? Cyclocross is a cross between road racing and off-road bike racing. Competitors race laps around a course featuring a variety of surfaces (pavement, grass, sand, gravel, dirt, etc.) while negotiating a number of obstacles that may require them to dismount and remount their bicycle. They’ll be racing for a great cause, a nonprofit care farm providing a safe haven for abused and neglected farm animals and pets, and a healing haven for people who connect to the earth, animals, nature and yourself! Sanctuary One at Double Oak Farm, 13195 Upper Applegate Rd, Jacksonville. 541-899-8627.

**SPORTS & OUTDOOR**

**THE DROWSY CHAPERONE**
Through September 3. In this deliciously meta look at the cliches and contrivances of early musicals, the ultimate musical -fan leads a literal tour of his favorite (fictitious) musical come to life. 1928’s The Drowsy Chaperone, featuring a cast of characters who are not always who they seem, is a two-gangster posy as pastr chefs, and, of course, a tipsy chaperone. The Drowsy Chaperone has no nudity, profanity, or any other unsuitable adult language content. Oregon Cabaret Theatre, 241i Hargadine St, Ashland. www.oregoncabaret.com / 541-488-2902.
OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

NUTCRACKER BALLET AUDITIONS
Saturday, September 16, 10 am. Auditions for dancers (ballet, tap, hip hop), acrobats, and actors for character roles. Performance dates are December 9, 10, 16, 17. For information, call 541-476-4641. Register at stillpointnutcracker.wordpress.com. Stillpoint Dance Studio, 405 SE 6th St, Grants Pass.

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY
Thursday, September 7, 6:30 pm. The public is invited to attend to learn how simple breathing of pure oxygen at high pressure may help a number of health conditions. Dr. Dawn Lemanne and other physicians from the new Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Center of Southern Oregon, opening in September in Ashland, will discuss how the revolutionary healing powers of hyperbaric oxygen therapy can upgrade your health.

SOVEREIGN WOMAN RETREAT

HOME FUNERAL AND AFTER-DEATH CARE OPTIONS
Monday, September 18, from 6:30 - 8 pm. Reclaim the art of caring for our own after death. Willow Denker and Mary Ann Perry are Certified Home Funeral Guides and will share how families are legally and safely bringing back this traditional final act of love. Explore why families are choosing this option as well as the practicalities of making it happen. Guanajuato Room, Ashland Public Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd. Free.

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER
Counseling can help you enhance personal development, meet life’s challenges, improve interpersonal relationships, handle emotions from life’s problems or stressors and accomplish your academic and career goals. The CCC offers low cost, sliding-scale, professional counseling for individuals, couples, adolescents, families and children. The Community Counseling Center, 600 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland. Visit www.cccofashland.com or call 541-708-5436.

KING OF THE ROGUE IS ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Wine Issue
We are gearing up to prepare our annual wine issue of the Rogue Valley Messenger where we’ll be talking all things wine.

Contact us today to advertise your business in this popular issue.

Advertise@RogueValleyMessenger.com
The Rogue Valley Messenger is seeking submissions for its second annual compilation of new local music.

Submissions must be new (recorded within 2016/2017), and by artists based in the The Messenger distribution area.

The compilation will be given to Messenger readers at a launch party, and artists selected for the comp will receive extra copies to sell or distribute as they see fit.

Email up to three songs for consideration to editorial@roguevalleymessenger.com with the subject line “LOCAL MUSIC COMP SUBMISSION” by October 31.

Mike Dillon was somewhere in Illinois, on the way to a gig, when he explained the general idea behind his band to The Messenger on the phone.

“I’m taking a percussion ensemble, and taking it to the rock n’ roll environment,” says Dillon. “The way Tito Puente and Lionel Hampton did, but I’m doing it in a punk rock setting.”

Dillon, who will be returning to the Talent Club on Tue., September 12, started his musical career in the 80s, after studying music at The University of North Texas. And he has been on the road playing and recording ever since, taking everything from punk to jazz, and blending it into something completely original.

“I was buying Weather Report records, Zappa records,” says Dillon. “What I loved about Zappa was the humor. Then I discovered punk rock and that was a whole other energy. Eventually along the way you find your voice. At the end of the day, I get to play vibraphones and make a living doing it.”

But this is not a new philosophy. Dillon has been mixing genres like a mad scientist since the nineties.

“That’s been my concept since when I started the [Hairy Apes BMX]; to do any style of music and make it my own. So there is no, one style,” he says. Just like Zappa’s bands of the seventies and eighties, The Mike Dillon Band has been the launching point for some of his past bandmate’s careers. Being surrounded by some of the best musicians available seems like a dream come true for a bandleader, but it also has its drawbacks.

“We were at this giant uber-pop gig and [our drummer] got hired by Miranda Lambert,” says Dillon. “And he was like ‘I can’t make the tour’.”

But Dillon is far from bitter, and amid laughter in the tour van has figured out how to remedy the situation.

“They pay me and I’ll train them,” says Dillon. “And they will get a giant arena gig in no time. And they will get endorsements. It’s The Mike Dillon School of Rock! You’ll go from making $500 to $5000.”

His latest album Life is Not a Football was released earlier this year, and already he has a different lineup for the tour. The current line-up is Mike Dillon on vibraphone and percussion, Nathan Lambertson on upright bass, Tristan Gionola on guitar, and Brendan Bull on drums.

It’s a certainty that some of the traits of Dillon’s musical peers/collaborators, would eventually begin to rub off on him. And he is wise enough to know that the best musicians, never stop being students.

“I played with Les Claypool and learned a lot about songwriting,” says Dillon. “I love playing with other musicians and learning their music. I’ve become more of a song person. I appreciate a beautifully well written song that will tear your heart out.”

Dillon will be touring almost non-stop until the end of September, and doesn’t plan on letting up just because the tour is over. His body of work is mind-boggling, but Dillon remains down to earth when it comes to his exceptional career.

“At the end of the tour I’m going to drive all the way to San Antonio,” says Dillon. “And then I fly to New York to play with George Porter Jr., from The Meters. Then I’m going to Cuba to study hand-drum for five days. Being a plumber is no different; if you have a good business you stay busy. I like to think I’m a blue-collar musician.”
In a June interview with The Guardian, country star Steve Earle offered the hottest of hot takes on contemporary Nashville's recent roster of twangy, chancy, odes to partying. “They’re just doing hip hop for people who are afraid of black people,” Earle said. “I like the new Kendrick Lamar album so I’ll just listen to that.”

Earle might want to also try giving a listen to Gangstagrass, a Brooklyn-based band coming to The Sound Lounge in Grants Pass on Thu., September 7. Unlike contemporary Nashville, the band legitimately combines country and hip hop, with two serious M.C.s fronting a legit acoustic bluegrass band.

Guitarist/producer Rench, and M.C. R-Son took the time to answer a few questions for The Messenger to preview the show.

R-SON: People frequently say they like everything but rap and country. Curiously, you’re doing both. Why? Was it a natural evolution, or a deliberate choice to combine those styles? How did it come to be?

Rench: I started doing it just out of wanting to hear it. My influences are mainly hip-hop and country, I grew up listening to both. I had cassettes of Run-DMC and the Beastie Boys and my dad’s Willie Nelson and George Jones records.

R-V-M: Do your bluegrass members listen to hip hop, and your hip hop members listen to bluegrass?

Rench: They do now!

R-V-M: Considering the current state of American social relations, what does it mean to have a multi-racial band combining two cultures that are generally seen as being at odds with one another?

R-SON: It feels to me some days like we’re the only thing capable of saving this place. Good music is good music. If you can’t agree on that we’re all doomed. What we do is make good music and regardless of your race, creed, color or musical tastes, we’re making good music for you.

R-V-M: So who is your audience? Do they get along?

Rench: Our audience is not hardcore fans of a specific genre, they are people with eclectic tastes—they have already been mixing it up in their collection and what they listen to, so most of them get us right away. Basically our audiences are awesome.

R-V-M: Where do you feel a sound like yours fits into the contemporary music world? Or does it?

R-SON: I think we fit in as well as, if not better than a lot of music. What you’re getting from us is more real. There’s no wack MCs on this. There’s no pseudo-bluegrass players on this. Everything you’re getting from the core group to anyone invited to get down with us, is 100 percent authentic. And in world where too much of the music seems fraudulent, not fitting that mold is okay. 😊

GANGSTAGRASS
9:30pm, Thu., September 7
The Sound Lounge, 225 SE H St., Grants Pass
$10

An old joke: Why was the drummer fired from the band? The drummer said “I wrote a song.”

And thus, the acoustic solo album was born. Why try to force a square peg into a round hole when you don’t have to? Though I can’t imagine he would have been fired for offering the tunes, that fork in the road is the case with An Empty House When It Almost Rains, a new solo album from Cole Zollinger, bass player for local hipster dreamboats, Slow Corpse. While Slow Corpse’s music is a rich blend of studio production elements, electronic textures, and hip-hop influenced beats, Zollinger’s solo tracks are deeply personal minimalist ballads in the vein of early Dashboard Confessional or Bright Eyes; strong offerings, but material that wouldn’t mesh well with Slow Corpse’s style.

It starts strong. The first track is “Carolina Blanco,” a brisk folk ode to a complicated woman. Even drumless, its strumming pattern drives like a backbeat, and Zollinger’s voice is unexpectedly rich, even with his subdued, slightly talky delivery.

The second track, “My Type,” breaks down Zollinger’s weakness: “brown-eyed girls that go to school to save the world though we both know they won’t make it out alive.” It begins as a ballad, but picks up halfway through with the introduction of drums, which helps keep the simplicity of the chord progression engaging, despite their lo-fi sound.

The fourth track, “Thirty Dirty Birds,” leaves the established formula behind. Zollinger moves from guitar to piano, offers a more soaring approach to melody, and anchors the tune with a minimalist beat that sounds like it could pass for a Lorde demo. The seventh song, “Breadcrumb Trail,” has a nice, tender head-bobbing vibe to it, and that vibe continues on the eighth, “True Love Waits.” It’s easy to imagine someone out there in a darkened bedroom feeling like it’s the story of their life.

Track nine, “How to Water Orchids,” gets a bit more experimental, including large elements of a found sound interspersed with a mumblecore vocal performance for a strange sort of duet. The album closes with “These Yagabond Shoes,” the most lo-fi, and most song of the bunch. The simple bluesy ballad uses a simple repeating melodic motif and lets its dramatic energy come from rise and fall of volume and emotion in Zollinger’s performance. It’s a haunting closer, especially as the final line snaps closed.

An Empty House When It Almost Rains never quite regains the intensity or drive of its opener, but every song is sincere and well-crafted, showcasing the strong foundations of Zollinger’s music, rather than its fancy wallpaper. 😊

An Empty House When It Almost Rains is available to stream on Spotify, and for download on CD Baby.
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FOOD & Drink

Cultured Palate Comes to Grants Pass
New Restaurant Rounds Out Cities Offerings

BY MELISSA HASKIN

This spring and summer, some kind of restaurant Miracle-Grow sprinkled itself on Grants Pass. The city got a full-service Indian restaurant and just about every block downtown became home to new digs including a pizza joint, an Asian tapas restaurant, a bistro and more.

So, what’s the deal? Is opening a restaurant as easy as shopping for chicken at the store? We reached out to new business owner Angela Padilla to get the scoop on what it’s like to be a new restaurant/bar owner right now in Grants Pass. Padilla opened Cultured Palate with her husband, Jorge, in late July.

The duo has a long history of supplying the Valley with food, from catering to setting up a food booth at the Saturday Market. Their new eatery is located on 6th Street, right next to the Twisted Cork and serves a variety of Cuban-influenced tapas like tostones (fried plantain), Cubano sandwiches and a variety of bowls. The joint is just as much drink as it is food and rumor has it the mojito and Cuban coffee are must tries. It’s important to note that Padilla doesn’t label the business as a restaurant, but as a tapas and wine bar. The recipes the couple use are from Jorge’s family. So reads the menu, “Jorge and Angela first met in June of 1986. It was only a short time before Angela fell deeply in love... with Jorge’s family’s Cuban food!” Of course, the couple did get married, but as she puts it about the food, it’s family recipes. “I’ve always tried to say it’s a ‘non-restaurant’ because restaurants are too stressful,” she says.

Rogue Valley Messenger: Why did you and Jorge decide that now was the right time to open a restaurant?

Angela Padilla: I learned of the possibility of the ideal space we are at now being available and thought/prayed, “Lord, if I did decide to open a Cuban-themed tapas and wine bar I’d want it to be right there.” Less than a month later, I had the lease and the keys. I didn’t have any money, but He worked that detail out, too. It is a prime location in downtown Grants Pass.

RVM: How have the first few weeks been?

AP: Business has been great! Our regular customers and our friends have been very supportive and the community has been very receptive to something new and full of culture.

RVM: Could you tell us a little about the first customer you had and the first night you were open?

AP: Our first customers were husband and wife and loved the food! Can’t get any better than that. Our Grand Opening was Back to the 50’s weekend in Grants Pass, July 28 & 29th. It was a lot of fun. My father in law is an Elvis impersonator and he and Jorge’s mom came up from Tucson. We had a “Cuban Elvis” outside singing and talking to everyone. I even had him seat people a couple of times.

RVM: What is your hope for the Cultured Palate?

AP: My hope is to be successful enough to pay our bills and make, at least, the same amount of money as I did when I worked so hard for other people. I just want a decent income where I, myself, can enjoy what I’m doing, share culture with others and have a place where everyone can just be themselves.

RVM: Do you know when you’ll break even?

AP: Goodness. No clue. Hopefully, before the projected date in the business plan. That would be nice.

RVM: Is there anything else you want to share?

AP: I love Grants Pass. To me it is like a permanent vacation. I feel very blessed to own a business in what is considered to be the “hub” of GP.

From Drink Local’s e-mail in-box

Letter from Meghan:

“The cornucopia of the Rogue Valley is filling. Ethereal peaches. Heirloom tomatoes splitting with flavor. I’ve spotted grapes draped on plates at the farmers’ market and fig trees swaying with chartreuse fruit. Basil, cilantro, and dill will perk up all the cucumber, zucchini, eggplant, and tender greens.

None of it inspires the menu at Lorella. Named for our region’s soil, Lorella markets itself as ‘a farm to table dining experience with local, organic, and sustainable ingredients.’ We set out for their happy hour, a quick walk downtown.

Despite the front door being locked at 5 pm, friendly staff greeted us. It seemed a good sign that all the tables had been reserved. We settled in for Happy Hour with reasonable $7 cocktails and $8 glasses of wine at the polished, natural-shaped wood bar. The bartender, busy juicing limes for the evening service, took time to describe two Portland-made gins. Unfortunately, the gin and tonic came in a wine glass, with a carnival-striped straw.

Wine sounded good to me. I was surprised that our server offered a South African wine. Africa, while deserving of a spot on any Cape Town restaurant table, is not local. I chose a Pinot from the Willamette Valley. Loosen up, the pinot told me. Even Chez Panisse, the local food restaurant, offers French and Italian as well as California and PNW wines.

And, I could have, had our appetizer not arrived: a $7 slice of toast with a blob of propane-torched cheese. Where was the baguette? Mix and Rise Up make delicious, crust-crackling batards. Where were the tender chopped, marinated tomatoes? Spicy basil? Vibrant green olive oil drizzle? Be open-minded, the pinot instructed.

Cutting into the bread (better suited to PB&J) revealed slices of hard nectarine reminiscent of a mid-winter grocery store purchase. When the owner came over, I thought that maybe she had sensed my disappointment and was going to reimburse our $7. She had only come to say that a reservation had cancelled, and we were welcome to sit at the table. No thanks. Better to stock up at the Medford or Ashland farmers’ markets, score a Quady North Rosé at Shop ‘N Kart for $11.48, and sip the State of Jefferson vino sitting in your yard with a paper bag of peaches.” 🍌
On the surface, being locked in a room unable to escape is a nightmare. But for Kerri Franklin, owner of Escape Ashland, it’s a great family activity.

“One you do one [escape room], you get hooked,” she says. “Whenever you go to a new city, it’s like, ‘oh, do they have one?’”

Her first was in Europe several years ago, and she’s done a dozen or so around the world since. After an escape experience with her family in Whistler, it dawned on her that Ashland was a place direly in need of an escape room.

“With the kind of people who visit, the college; it is a good fit,” she says.

After a year of design and remodeling, Escape Ashland opened in spring and has stayed relatively busy since. Though the experience is for groups of two to eight, those groups wishing to attend should probably book their two-hour slot at least a week in advance, especially if they prefer to attend on a weekend.

For the uninitiated, an escape room is a game that works out pretty much exactly what it sounds like: Players are locked into a room and must make a jailbreak. They do so by solving a series of puzzles to ultimately find the key that lets you out of the room. Those puzzles are themed to give a sense of plot that propels players forward.

“The best rooms are immersive,” says Franklin. “You feel like you’re in that world. The props and the tricks are always icing on the cake. It’s the environment, and having it be logical so that the sequence makes sense.”

Franklin says that plots don’t have to be high-tech, just original. She played a painfully realistic one in Portland where the goal is simply to find the rent money.

“For Escape Ashland, Franklin worked with a design team in Bucharest to create a Shakespeare-themed escape. “The premise is you’re here for the audition for Henry V, but you are locked in the Green Room,” says Franklin. “We wanted to do something that was all-ages, not scary or dark.”

To escape the green room and make the audition, players must navigate hidden messages, locked drawers, secret rooms and more. Players may ask for hints if they get stuck, but asking disqualifies them from joining the roster on the leaderboard. However if players are stuck, staff offers hints through an intercom to ensure that everyone makes it through eventually.

“It’s kind of hard to know how long it will take,” says Franklin. “The best groups can do it in about 35 minutes. Those that struggle take an hour and a half.”

The current record is 33 minutes, held by a team of E.R. nurses.

But the experience doesn’t always bring out the best in a team.

“There was some tension in a newlywed couple once,” says Franklin.

Escape rooms have their origins in point and click adventure style video games, as well as larger games like Portal or The Legend of Zelda. The “escape the room” subgenre became popular enough to be launched as a live experience in Japan, and then it spread out across the world’s interesting locations.

“There’s one in the catacombs in Paris,” says Franklin. “I wish we’d done that.”

There are enough now that some superfans even go on escape room tours. Of course, they kind of have to. Since the thrill comes from the mystery of the puzzles, each particular escape room is generally a one-time experience.

“The lifespan of a room is about 18 months,” says Franklin. “We will probably change the design in the downseason next year.”

Franklin doesn’t yet know what the theme for the redesign will be, and is considering taking suggestions from the public.

But for those locals who are already hooked, don’t worry. Escape Ashland is already at work on a second room in downtown that will be old west saloon themed. Franklin is hoping to have that room open this winter. For fans, the next room can’t come soon enough.

“People leave kind of jubilant,” says Franklin. “It’s an uplifting thing.”
A balmy summer day opens on an egret-filled pond. Flowers dot the earthy landscape and trees border the marshy wetlands. It’s a painting so beautiful and vibrant one might want to jump into it. This oil painting by Penny Simons, as well as several others, are on display at Art du Jour Gallery in downtown Medford throughout August and September.

Art du Jour picks artists either within the Rogue Valley or Northern California. Simmons is a resident of Medford, but has lived in various parts of the U.S., such as New York and Texas. Beginning in watercolors, she gravitated to oils where she found she has a natural talent for. It wasn’t until she relocated to the Rogue Valley did she rediscover her affinity for watercolor.

“When we moved to Medford in 1997 I was so intoxicated with the beauty of the Pacific Northwest that I decided to give watercolors another try,” she says in her bio. She never abandoned oils, however.

“In June 2016 I met Sheri Dinardi who was hanging as a guest artist in the Salon at Art DuJour Gallery,” she says. “I was so impressed with her beautiful oil paintings that I became determined to master oils. I became obsessed. I began devouring books on oil painting techniques and studying artists whose style I wanted to emulate. I now paint exclusively in oils and feel that the training and experience I gained while using watercolors definitely contributes to the artist I am today. My only regret is that I don’t have another lifetime to dedicate to my new love of oil painting.”

Simmons is a member of the Oregon Watercolor Society and an associate member of the American and National Watercolor Societies. Art du Jour never requires a theme from its featured artist, instead letting the artist share the medium he or she works best in. Whether its oils or watercolors, art is where Simmons calls home.

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Penny Simmons at Art du Jour Gallery
BY JORDAN MARIE MARTINEZ

EGRETS OF NORTH BEND
PHOTO CREDIT: PENNY SIMMONS

A balmy summer day opens on an egret-filled pond. Flowers dot the earthy landscape and trees border the marshy wetlands. It’s a painting so beautiful and vibrant one might want to jump into it. This oil painting by Penny Simons,

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GOOOOOOOOOLLLL
Madford United Comes to the Field to Play Futbol
BY CHARLES FISCHMAN

The competitive American youth soccer world—from elite hotbeds like Southern California or North Texas; to their imitators in every major US city's suburbs; and even to Southern Oregon—is a feverish one. Endless tournaments. Battling governing bodies. Corporate sponsorships. Six-figure salaries at stake. Yet, despite the tumult, an informal consensus reigns.

BY JORDAN MARIE MARTINEZ

End of Summer Doesn’t Mean End of Fun
Labor Day Weekend in the Rogue Valley
BY JORDAN MARIE MARTINEZ

Labor Day weekend is like the last hurrah for summer. Fall is closer to our doorsteps than just around the corner, and the school year is ready to begin whether children are ready for it or not. Dozens of events are taking place during the holiday weekend in the Rogue Valley, and here are a few special ones.

Taste of Harry & David: Harry & David’s 15th annual food and wine festival will take place Sept. second and third. Locals and tourists can sample local beer, wines, and cider as well as gourmet food and chocolate. For $15 dollars, patrons will get a wine glass for sampling and can peruse around 60 booths offering these delicious samples. $10 lets patrons sample food only. Live music will also be present at the event, entertaining guests as they enjoy decadent food and drinks by local businesses. 1314 Center Dr, Medford, 11 am – 6 pm, Sept. 2 and 3, $15 for food and alcohol, $10 for food only

Britt Festival: While it may seem like an obvious choice, Britt Festivals is always a great option for a weekend event for the family or a date. Daughtry is performing his original alternative rock music Saturday, September 2. To make it a more complete day, take the opportunity to enjoy the quaint downtown of Jacksonville. Enjoy a meal at C St. Bistro or an artisan cup of coffee at Forty-Five Coffee. 350 S 1st St, Jacksonville, 7:30 pm, Saturday, September 2, $67 reserved, $69 standing room, $44 lawn, $34 children

Emigrant Lake: If a food and wine festival or a concert isn’t as relaxing as some might prefer for the long weekend, enjoy the day swimming and lounging at Emigrant Lake. The beautiful lake five miles outside of Ashland has campgrounds and an RV Park. Float or lay out by the water, barbecue with friends and family, and end embrace the end of summer.

Grants Pass Growers Market: Every Saturday in Grants Pass the Growers Market sets up from 9 am to 1 pm, selling home and fresh grown spices and flowers, produce, and artwork. Attendees can enjoy and sample homemade essential oils, take home a fresh cake or pie, and even meet a silversmith. Artists and farmers from Butte Falls to the Oregon Coast set up shop here for those seeking more natural and artisan products for their stomachs and homes.

Money Tree Festival: The annual festival in Medford is celebrating its 41st year this year. Join the fun at the Medford Civic Stadium. Enjoy the beauty of the Medford area and appreciate the hard work the Festival committee has put into this year’s event.

Choir Festival: The Medford Festival of Choirs this year will feature all the choirs from Medford’s Title I elementary schools. The choirs are made up of students who go above and beyond while attending Title I schools. The choirs will perform at 7 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Medford High School auditorium. Admission includes a $5 donation for all ages.
Although based in Medford, filmmaker Ray Nomoto Robison has cultural ties to East Asian traditions, a versatility that gives his work a unique essence of vibrancy and dualism, a “bi-formity” that may just reach its apex in a film currently in production, An Affair Remains.

“An Affair Remains came about in a very unusual way,” says Robison. “I was in Japan last year and happened to meet an actor, Masayuki Yui, who had been in four Akira Kurosawa films. It developed into an opportunity I didn’t want to miss especially the idea of working with both Yui and Marlyn Mason whom I had worked with before on a number of films. So I took on the task of writing a film for the two of them.”

He continues, “Usually when I write a screenplay for a short film it is because I have a certain emotional attachment to the story so creating characters to fit specific actors was new to me. It was nearly a year after I met Yui that I finished the script. I sent it to him and asked if he would be interested in doing the film. He said yes and everything just starting coming together from there.”

Squarely in the film noir tradition, this ambitious project is a sober, dialogue driven story that focuses more on subtleties and interpersonal relations than flashy phenomena. Films like An Affair Remains seek to rekindle a golden age of film, the 1950s-1960s, where the experimental nature of the times met perfectly with the standards and traditions that were set by seminal plays and epic poems—and remarkably, the film’s lead actress has experience of working in films from this era, appearing with the legendary Elvis Presley in the 1969 film The Trouble With Girls. Robison himself has been interested in authentic, transcendent art since his time at university.

“Heard to believe it was over 40 years ago, I was a Fine Arts (drawing, painting) major at the University of Montana, when someone mentioned the Motion Picture program at Montana State,” recalls Robison. “It had never occurred to me before that time to be a filmmaker but at that moment I knew that film was going to be my medium so I switched schools and majors. Since that time it has been and continues to be a struggle primarily because as an artist you can’t just create something for commercial reasons. I’ve spent decades producing advertising and marketing videos but that wasn’t really wasn’t what I wanted to do so I basically just stopped being a producer/director for hire. I now work a regular 40-hour-per-week job not related to film whatsoever and devote all my time outside those hours to working on the films I want to create.”

“My short films especially contain emotional parts of me which I feel comfortable in exposing. I read somewhere that filmmakers will often go for silly or over-the-top types of productions because they are fearful of being laughed at or not having acceptance of their serious side. I understand that statement because before I moved to the Rogue Valley I felt that way. The comfort I feel here in the Rogue Valley allows me to be an artist who works in film. It wasn’t till I was over 50 years old that I felt like I could call myself a filmmaker.”
Taking Your Other Pulse
Proper Approach to Assessment of Your Underactive Thyroid

BY DR. DANIEL SMITH

According to the statistics of the American Thyroid Association, over 20 million Americans have been diagnosed with and treated for hypothyroidism. It is likely that an additional 20 million people are suffering with poorly functioning thyroid glands but have not received any treatment. The vast majority of patients who seek out medical care for hypothyroidism are treated conventionally with synthetic thyroid hormone. I find this unfortunate because while some of these people do require management with this medication, most people with hypothyroidism can effectively be treated without prescriptive thyroid hormones. More often than not, a thorough history, physical exam and proper testing will clearly reveal subtle nutritional deficiencies, environmental toxicities or imbalances in the endocrine and cardiovascular system. Once these underlining issues are addressed, thyroid imbalances often resolve spontaneously.

Unfortunately, most physicians use a “reductionist” model to assess health. That is, they view the thyroid as an isolated entity. The constellation of symptoms such as fatigue, weight gain, depression, sensitivity to cold, muscle or joint aches, brain fog, poor memory, PMS and brittle nails are perceived as being an indication of a need for thyroid hormone. Sometimes, thyroid hormone supplementation helps for a poor memory, PMS and brittle nails are perceived as being an indication of a need for thyroid hormone. Therefore, when I assess patients, I always perform thyroid function tests, as well as other blood tests to rule out deficiencies that may be associated with hypothyroidism. I test TSH, free T3 and T4, thyroid peroxidase, micronutrients, luteinizing hormone (LH), follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH), prolactin, DHEA, adrenal cortex hormones, phosphorus and bone density. I also measure blood sugar, lipoproteins, homocysteine, collagen type I, and a full panel of thyroid antibodies to assess the immune system's response to thyroid antigens. Since several organs including the kidneys, heart and liver are sensitive to thyroid hormones, it is important to test these functions as well as the thyroid.

Regardless of how serious you view hypothyroidism, it is important to learn the right way to assess your thyroid. Many patients have been told that they have a thyroid problem, yet have not been offered the right tests to determine the cause of their symptoms. Proper assessment requires a careful examination of the patient's symptoms, physical exam, and laboratory tests.

In addition to these practices, we all need to feel loved. Create a loving support network to carry you through these challenging times. We need each other and we need to surround ourselves with the loving support of people, activities, and daily practice to sustain us through these times.

Do things that nurture yourself. Self-care needs to become a primary focus, for without it, we are not in balance. We are constantly making choices. Peace or anguish is a personal choice. Which lifestyle do you choose to carry you through the changing currents?

Balance can be sustained with a sense of inner peace when we take responsibility for our lives. It is easy to blame another person or situation when things do not go our way. Allow peace to become your centerline. If you feel angry about something, feel it and let it go. Holding onto anger will only make it worse. As Pema Chodron, Buddhist teacher, talks about in the Shenpa Syndrome: if you scratch and pick at a thought, it will bleed; just as if you were to scratch and pick at your skin. The more you scratch it, the worse it will get. Pema says, “Learning to recognize shenpa teaches us the meaning of not being attached to this world... being hooked by what we associate with comfort. All we’re trying to do is not to feel our uneasiness. But when we do this we never get to the root of the practice. The root is experiencing the itch as well as the urge to scratch, and then not acting it out.” See more at: http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php

Learning to watch your life as a movie, and become the observer, is another life practice. Detachment allows you to do this. If you feel uncertain or uptight, breathe love and peace into your body or focus on something that calms you down and returns you to inner stillness. Watch the drama and do not get caught in its web. Go for a walk, breathe some fresh air, or jump into a river to cleanse your body. Every moment spend in anguish is precious time you are not at peace or in love.

Bring color into your daily practice. If you need to cool down, wear some soft blue tones. When you are in need of energy, orange or yellow are great colors. And when you need passion and/or power, bring some red into your life. If you are in a sticky situation it would be appropriate to focus on purple and see a purple wave of transformation, shift the energy. Additionally, I like to include an array of color in my diet to nourish all organs and bodily functions.

In addition to developing a practice that works for you, balance can be sustained with understanding. The more we understand each other and appreciate the complex roles we play in our families and societies, the more we are able to support each other in rising to be the best we can be. May we look into each other’s hearts and souls and see there... ourselves.
Taking a Deep Breath as the School Year Starts

BY KELLYNA KALEOLANI CAMPBELL

...they're quite possible and exactly what you need. These wonders may sound paradoxical, and yet people together instead of keeping them apart. Empowering surrender and a calming climax. I claim a messy gift. I want you to experience an...for you is a toasty coolness. I pray that you will enter a phase of your astrological cycle when...shouldn't blindly accept all of them. About these offerings. You probably even covert. While some may be useful, others than usual. Some gifts could be big, complex, and you'll be likely to receive gifts at a higher rate entering a phase of your astrological cycle when...research and rigorous logic to solve dilemmas. Will be a highly favorable time to use disciplined...Reliance on superstition and wishful thinking is the sacrifice worked. I urge you to avoid their...In an effort to reverse the negative trend, they performed a ritual sacrifice of ten goats in a...AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I invite...CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I urge...SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You're entering a phase of your astrological cycle when...You probably shouldn't blindly accept all of them. For instance, don't rashly accept a "blessing" that would indebted or obligate you to someone in ways that feel uncomfortable. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are currently under the influence of astrological conditions that have led to dramatic boosts of self-esteem in laboratory rats. To test the theory that this experimental evidence can be applied to humans, I authorize you to act like a charismatic egomaniac in the coming weeks. Just as a lab rat...But I lied about the lab rats. And I thought about these offerings. You probably even covert. While some may be useful, others could be problematic. So I want to make sure you know how important it is to be discerning about such offerings. You probably shouldn't blindly accept all of them. For instance, don't rashly accept a "blessing" that would indebted or obligate you to someone in ways that feel uncomfortable. CANCER (June 21-July 22): One of my favorite Cancerian artists is Penny Arcade, a New York performance artist, actress, and playwright. In this horoscope, I offer a testimonial in which she articulates the spirit you'd be wise to cultivate in the coming weeks. She says, "I am the person I know best, inside out, the one who best understands my motivations, my struggles, my triumphs. Despite occasionally betraying my best interests to keep the peace, to achieve goals, or for the sake of beloved friendships, I astound myself by my appetite for life, my unwavering curiosity into the human condition, my distrust of the status quo, my poetic soul and abiding love of beauty, my strength of character in the face of unfairness, and my optimism despite defeats and loss.” LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The Witwatersrand is a series of cliffs in South Africa. It encompasses 217 square miles. From this area, which is a tiny fraction of the Earth’s total land surface, humans have extracted 50 percent of all the gold ever mined. I regard this fact as an apt metaphor for you to meditate on in the next 12 months, Leo. If you’re alert, you will find your soul’s equivalent of the Witwatersrand. What I mean is that you’ll have a golden opportunity to discover emotional and spiritual riches that will nurture your soul as it has rarely been nurtured. 🌟

Homework: Each of us has a secret ignorance. What’s yours? What will you do about it? Testify at FreeWillAstrology.com. 🌟

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Across
1 “Get outta here!”
5 Windshield attachment
10 Be boastful
14 “No can do”
15 Beginning of Caesar’s boast
16 Gutter holder
17 Vicuña’s land, maybe
18 Recycled iron, e.g.
20 B-movie bad guy who emerges from the deep
22 Sound heard during shearing
23 Those, in Tabasco
24 Food drive donation
27 G.I. entertainers
30 Olive ___ (Popeye’s love)
32 “The elements,” so to speak
34 Pastries named after an emperor
38 “Eric the Half-___” (Monty Python song)
39 Decisive statement
42 “Beloved” novelist Morrison
43 Happening in L.A. and N.Y. simultaneously, maybe
44 “Queen of Soul” Franklin
47 Liq. ingredient
48 157.5 deg. from N.
49 Late Pink Floyd member Barrett
50 Start to matter?
53 Tuna type
55 “I’m gonna do it no matter what!”
60 They might appear when right-clicking
61 “So the truth comes out!”
62 Apartment, in ’60s slang
63 Shearing stuff
64 “Moby Dick” captain
65 Bear with patience
66 Good poker draws
67 Star of “Seagulls! (Stop It Now): A Bad Lip Reading”
68 Word on an empty book page
69 Zilch

Down
1 Eats dinner
2 Gnaw on
3 Ineffable glow
4 Large digit?
5 Daunted
6 ___ Domani (wine brand)
7 ___ asada
8 Build up
9 9 Subatomic particle with no strong force
10 It’s served in the video game “Tapper”
11 Maze runner
12 Director DuVernay of the upcoming “A Wrinkle In Time”
13 Shaving cream choice
14 City east of Phoenix
15 City $5W of Kansas City (that has nothing to do with bribing DJs)
16 Biblical ark measures
17 Giant concert venues
18 Tattooist’s tool
19 City SSW of Kansas City (that has nothing to do with bribing DJs)
20 Spread that symbolizes slowness
21 Baltimore Colts great Johnny
22 Very tasty
23 Played before the main act
24 “Rapa ___” (1994 film)
25 Adoption advocacy org.
26 Tattooist’s tool
27 City SSW of Kansas City (that has nothing to do with bribing DJs)
28 Very tasty
29 Played before the main act
30 Olive ___ (Popeye’s love)
31 “Stay” singer Lisa
32 “The elements,” so to speak
33 Bagpipers’ caps
34 Pastries named after an emperor
35 Leave off
36 “Rapa ___” (1994 film)
37 Adoption advocacy org.
38 “Queen of Soul” Franklin
39 Decisive statement
40 Spread that symbolizes slowness
41 America’s Cup entrant
42 “Beloved” novelist Morrison
43 Happening in L.A. and N.Y. simultaneously, maybe
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45 47-stringed instrument
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68 Word on an empty book page
69 Zilch

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