



W ROGUE VALLEY T F MESSENGER

Vol. 3, Issue 9, April 28 - May 10



OUR SPRING ART GUIDE

Finally,
Something Bernie
and Hillary Agree On!

NEWS

Transit Troubles:
Get On the Bus!

OUTDOORS

Learn what a tabor is at
the Highland Games

SCREEN

Local actor jumps to
the big time screen!

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COVER DESIGN BY
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NEWS

Rogue Valley Transit provides buses and a lifeline for many residents to get to work and home. But, with financial shortfalls, they are cutting back services. Measure 15-141 can remedy that.



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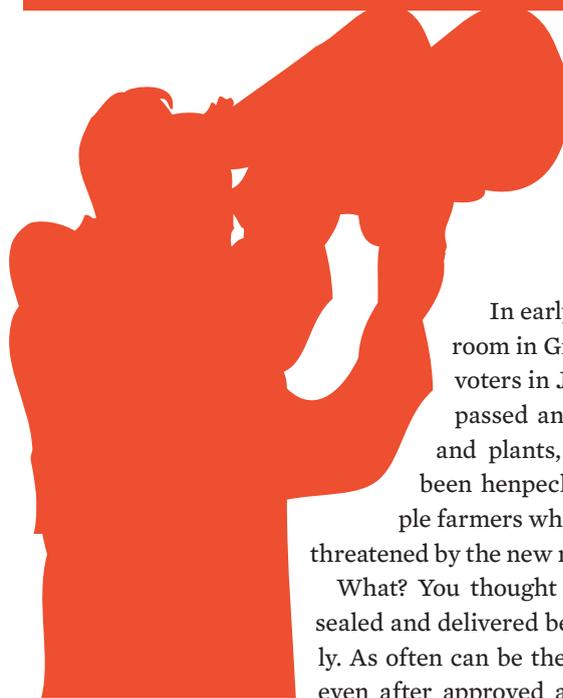
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DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

Who's On The Team?



In early April, Judge Pat Wolke's courtroom in Grants Pass was packed. Although voters in Josephine County overwhelming passed an ordinance banning GMO seeds and plants, for the past year, the law has been henpecked and threatened from a couple farmers who claim their livelihood has been threatened by the new regulation.

What? You thought that the ordinance was signed, sealed and delivered because voters approved it? Hardly. As often can be the case (literally, in this incident), even after approved and passed, environmental laws can spend months and years in a legal purgatory as

courts, plaintiffs and bureaucrats squabble.

We're not the first to note that democracy is a slow-moving process, and Election Day is not the be-all, end-all, but simply a point on a stretched out timeline. Yes, you should soon have your ballots in your mailbox and will be able to make decisions about city council elections, some property levies and, of course, the presidential primaries. But that day has been a long time coming—and as it approaches, it is frustrating to realize how much media attention and our national bandwidth has been dedicated to the presidential campaigns and how much more will be consumed in the upcoming six months. According to a study of the evening news on CBS, ABC and NBC in late 2015 and early 2016, Donald Trump alone accounted for one-quarter of all airtime on evening news programs on those channels. Quite literally, hundreds of media hours have been occupied by showboating Trump's personality—and, we wager that coverage has done little to sway anyone's opinion much in either direction.

Point being: Media coverage about the presidential campaigns and hair-piece-thin changes in the "race" has pulled resources and attention away from other important and critical issues—away from coverage of local politics, away from analysis about legislative issues and towards an examination of the personalities of Trump, Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton, and, increasingly, turning the presidential election into the number one viewed reality TV show.

Certainly, we have our opinions about the presidential races, and we imagine you do as well. Perhaps, though, our biggest contribution to election coverage would be asking each candidate one simple, but we believe insightful, question: What five people will you bring into office with you? (And, perhaps this is a question that you can use to analyze who you will choose for office.)

Being president or being mayor is so much more than a one-person job, yet we pay little attention to examining the team each candidate has and plans to have in office. Sure, soon the candidates will select their vice-president running mates, but we are thinking about an even deeper analysis. Will Clinton continue to hold John Kerry as Secretary of State? Would Sanders appoint someone like the former CEO of Tom's of Maine as the Secretary of Commerce? Will Donald Trump manage his cabinet like he lorded over his reality TV show? Who a president gathers as his or her team probably says as much—if not more—about their pending presidency than any other indicator, yet it receives little, if any, media analysis.

Consider, as one example about what a new president means—and how it will matter who he or she appoints as a cabinet member. Governed by the Department of Interior, the Bureau of Land Management recently released a plan to guide management of 2.6 million acres of Oregon's public forests; these new regulations determine what fishing, rafting, logging, hiking, snowmobiling opportunities are available. Areas like the Applegate Adaptive Management Area are particularly vulnerable in the latest draft of the plan. How public lands will be managed are greatly affected by who is the Secretary of Interior.

Point being: While making your ballot choices, we urge you to look past personalities, and try to find out who else is on a candidate's "team."

Send your thoughts about who and what you are excited to vote for this May. We look forward to publishing well-thought-out comments. Please try to limit comments to a concise 100 words or less, and submit to Publisher Phil Busse at, Editorial@RogueValleyMessenger.com.



LETTERS



Have something to say?

Send your thoughts and SnapShot submissions to:
editorial@roguevalleymessenger.com.

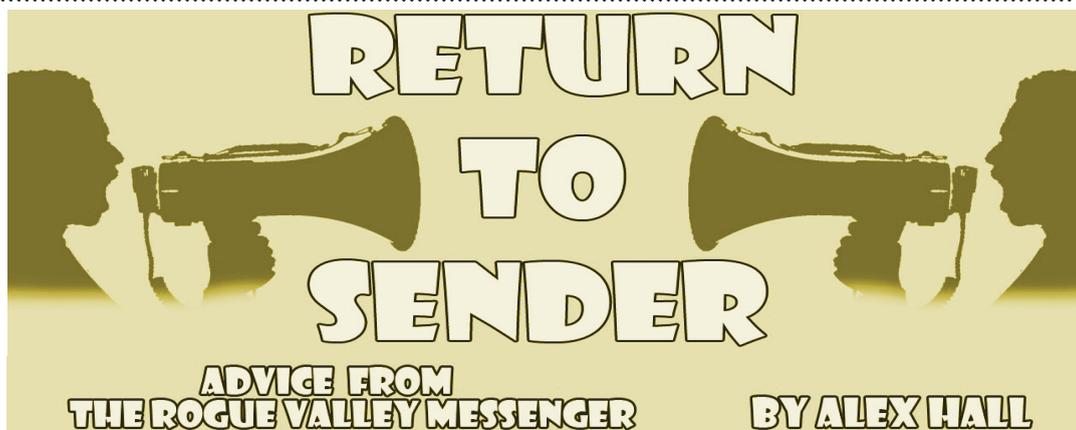
Letters must be received by noon Friday before next print date for inclusion in the following week's paper. Please limit letters to 250 words. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Speak Up

RE.: "VIETGONE" IS A TOTAL AND REFRESHING SHIFT OF PERSPECTIVE

As one of the "dusty old relics" who have seen this awesome show, I need to tell you that while I was not offended by anything in the play, I was offended by your age'ist remarks. If you're going to review the play's audience as well as the play, you need to talk to more people.

- Cynthia Tank



Hey Messenger: For a good chunk of my young life I have been struggling with my own cultural self-identification and sexual orientation. Lately I have been feeling more confident about myself and have really become more comfortable in my own skin. But I am afraid to tell anyone. More specifically, I am afraid to tell my best friend that I identify as pansexual. My best friend has been raised in a very religious family and we tend to have opposite views but this is one thing I don't know how she would take. I am deathly afraid that she will hate me or reject me. She is by far one of the closest people in my life, and I don't want to be someone I am not around her. Is there a way I can approach the topic without having it turn into a questioning of my morals?

Dear Anonymous: Short answer: No, probably not, but maybe not for the reasons you think. Long answer: There are a few different issues here. There are those that are purely your own, the process of self-discovery, growth, and decisions about what to share with others. Then there is the issue of her religion and the very likely issue of her feeling as if she were lied to. Do not get me wrong, this is still NOT your fault or even about fault. However, she will likely feel this like a burn and struggle with why you kept it from her. You will have to deal with this. The issue of religion is actually more complex and unpredictable. You cannot always be sure when or how a person's cognitive dissonance will set in regarding religious beliefs and loved ones. Have you ever known one of those Republicans that will publicly tow that line, but will also attend the heck out of some gay marriage ceremonies and have a grand old time, partying and chatting it up with everyone? It's like that. What I am saying is that she might be angrier over not being included in your process of self-discovery, than over the moral "differences." It is only human and we love whom we love, despite disagreements. My advice would be to reiterate the fact that you wanted to figure out answers to these questions on your own, before involving anyone else. From your words, it seems like this is probably true, anyway. I would also approach it from an identity perspective, something that is just *who you are* rather than something you "do." What you do in your personal life is not her business unless you decide it is, although an argument can be made for *who you are* being part of a best friend's business. As you said, you do not want to be someone you are not around her.

Ultimately, that delicate balance between maintaining what is right and not wanting to cause loved ones pain has to be kept in some way. People decide for themselves where that line feels the most comfortable. There is no singular correct answer. My question for you is this: is a best friend who does not know a big part of your identity, really a best friend? You have to decide. If the answer can be "yes," then do not worry about it anymore. Accept your own stance and enjoy the things you *can* share. If the answer is "no" as I suspect it is, then prepare for a talk, and allow the lines of empathy to flow both directions.



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THE ROGUE VALLEY MESSENGER'S

ANNUAL Flash Fiction Contest INVITES SUBMISSIONS

Using one of the two following prompts (or both, if you're feeling dynamic), write a compelling short story. Entries will be received by our editorial staff, and a panel of esteemed judges will select their favorite five:

She turned the envelope over in her hands. She had waited so long for this letter, but now she wasn't sure she could bring herself to open it.

The morning dew was still dripping from the leaves, and the sound of a branch snapping wasn't far away. From where he stood—or, was it hiding?—behind the bush, the noise seemed as if it could be as close as an arm's length.

- Entries must not be longer than 600 words (yes, we understand that some of you cannot clear your throat in fewer than 1000 words, but this is micro-fiction). Word count does not include the prompt.
- Submit your story as a Word document attachment to Editorial@RogueValleyMessenger.com NO LATER THAN 5 PM MONDAY, MAY 2.
- The top five submissions will be published in our May 12 issue, and their authors will read their stories at a special event. (Details unveiled in our next issue!)

NEWS

Get On The Bus!

Measure 15-141 Needs Your Support

BY PHIL BUSSE



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGUE VALLEY TRANSIT NOW; SEE THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE PHOTOS.

Nationwide, public transit ridership in the United States is steadily climbing. According to the American Public Transportation Association, in 2013, Americans took 10.6 billion trips on transit, a steady one percent increase from the previous year—and, more important, the highest level of public transit ridership since 1956; not coincidentally, this was the year that President Dwight Eisenhower officially created the federal laws and funding for the expansive interstate highway system.

Over the decades following the mid-50s, Americans took to the roads and cars with abandon, a trend that even warnings about global warming have done little to pump the brakes on—and, with the luxury and prevalence of a culture of single-passenger commuters and convenience, public transportation like bus lines have atrophied. The news three years ago that public transit was gaining popularity was a faint hope and heartbeat that this trend was changing.

Yet, those statistics are misleading in regions like southern Oregon. Primarily, the rise in public transit ridership has been pushed by urban centers like New York and Chicago, but public bus lines in more rural area have largely been overlooked like spinster step-siblings.

Southern Oregon is a precise microcosm of those problems: In the 1960s and through 1975, a private company, Mount Ashland Stage Lines, provided bus service between southern Oregon cities. But, as that company struggled, in 1975, a special election formed the Rogue Valley Transit District (RVTB), which started modestly with three buses, but quickly expanded.

In recent years, though, RVTB has struggled to make budgetary ends meet; like city roads and federal highway on which cars drive, RVTB relies on public funding to maintain its services. A keen example of this funding is a 2012 federal grant to pilot Saturday services. At its peak, 2000 people were riding the buses on Saturday, a large number using the buses to get to jobs. But when

the grant ran out in 2015, RVTB was forced to cancel the services, leaving dozens of residents struggling to reach their jobs.

“The general public assumes that the fare passengers pay covers the costs of the route, which is not the case, just like gas taxes do not cover the full costs of the roads drivers use,” explains Tonia Moro, Rogue Valley Transit Now (RVTN) Chair and RVTB Board Member. “The grant which also funded evening service until 9 pm expired in 2015 and RVTB was forced to cut the services,” adds Moro.

Over the past two years, due to inadequate funding, RVTB has been forced to cut those weekend and evening services—the one often most important to working-class residents trying to find an inexpensive way to reach a job—and also reduced the frequency of Route 10, a critical route which links Ashland, Talent, Phoenix and Medford. Now, in an effort to bring back those services, a group of concerned residents is scrambling to restore funding for RVTB. On this May’s ballot, Measure 15-141 is asking for a five-year property levy of 13 cents/\$1000 assessed value, a measure which *the Messenger* endorses.

RVTB has been particularly vulnerable: In 2006, RVTB raised single-ride fare to \$2, yet, even though that amount is less than a gallon of gas (not to mention the cost of insurance and car repairs), the minor fare increase scared away some ridership—and, moreover, did not generate enough money to sustain bus lines. In turn, the loss of ridership has fueled a downward spiral. According to Moro, RVTB expects ridership to drop 325,000 from the current 1.4 million annually, a loss of about \$243,000 in fares. With the reduction of weekend services and Route 10, that trend could continue, if funding isn’t restored.

“While it’s true that more routes means more ridership and more fare revenues, without increased federal funds, RVTB needs additional support from the commu-

nity to make that happen,” says Moro.

But, currently, there are no opportunities for new federal funds to help RVTB operate its service, explains Moro. Those funds are generally calculated on a formula based on local population numbers and favors urban density.

In 2014, RVTB placed a property levy on the November ballot, in an effort to prevent cuts to bus service, but that measure was soundly defeated, 60 to 40 percent.

“Some homeowners received their property tax statement from the county and their ballot on the same day,” laments Moro. She also points out that many voters did not understand that the levy was simply an attempt to preserve, not expand, existing services. “We heard from community members that they understood the ballot measure to only fund new service and that the existing service would have stayed whole.”

Likewise, this May’s Measure 15-141 is a limited effort to shore up finances for RVTB and to restore the Saturday services and Route 10.

The timeline is short for proponents to convince voters that a five-year limited property levy is important—important for working class residents to travel to their weekend and evening jobs and important as an environmental measure to reduce car traffic between Ashland and Medford, and to curb carbon emissions. They have gathered a modest number of “likes” on their Facebook page, but assure those numbers don’t fully represent the interest and support for Measure 15-141. Most notably, the list of endorsers is impressive, including environmental organizations like Oregon Environmental Council and Rogue Valley Earth Day; labor groups Amalgamated Transit Union (Oregon Chapter) and Southern Oregon Central Labor Chapter of the Oregon AFL-CIO; and, governmental bodies like City of Ashland City Council and City of Talent City Council.

And, add to that list the *Rogue Valley Messenger*.

NEWS

Public Profile

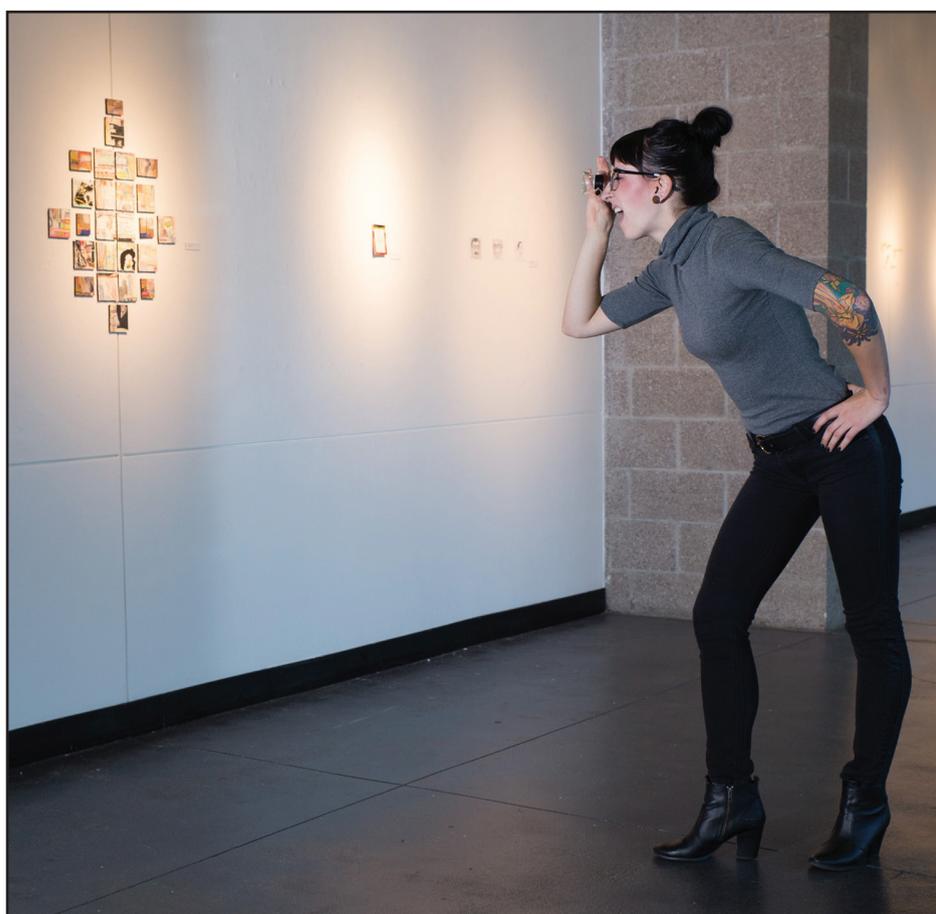
Hannah Bakken, SOU's Center for the Visual Arts Gallery Director

BY RYAN DEGAN

Southern Oregon University's Center for the Visual Arts Gallery student Gallery Director Hannah Bakken has a massive job. Rotating five or six exhibits in SOU's gallery spaces every couple weeks, Bakken sorts through hundreds of pieces of art each month. For the *Messenger's* Spring Arts Issue, we sat down with Bakken to discuss the SOU art gallery, its exhibits, and the importance of student art.

Rogue Valley Messenger: How do artists apply?

Hannah Bakken: We have an application online for the galleries that students are definitely prompted to use. For students, it is first come first serve. Usually it is for their senior shows, but as time has gone on, a lot of students seek out the space to do fun things and experiment with their artwork. I am also on the committee for the Ashland Gallery Association, so I have been working with them to feature and advertise the student art spaces.



RVM: Can you tell me about the Ashland Gallery Association?

HB: The Ashland Gallery Association puts work in their Gallery map and gathers information to spread around town to help get Gallery traffic. Recently, the association has added the SOU gallery onto the gallery map of Southern Oregon, which is really exciting. Now we can do more things with them and bridge the gap between the community and SOU. This is really kind of my goal for the year, to make sure that people in the community know what we are doing down here and come see our work because student art is important and relevant

RVM: Any particular events patrons can look forward to coming up?

HB: Throughout the rest of (spring), there will be a lot more senior shows. Then in the summer, we are creating summer rounds for community members to use the spaces. The Young Artist Institute, which is kind of like a summer camp for kids, is going to have a show in the summer. We will also be continuing the standard rotation of exhibits before the summer. So, we have a lot of things to come, but nothing super huge and out of the ordinary or something that we've planned a year in advance.

RVM: Why is it important to have a space where students and local artists can feature their art?

HB: It's incredibly valuable to all the students and the faculty. Painting professors might not necessarily know what their students are doing in printmaking, so it gives them a chance to see (an artist's) other talents. Recently, I went on a trip to the Pratt Institute and School for Visual Arts in New York. They are, how do I say this in the nicest way possible, their gallery spaces are really subpar. It was really interesting and kind of disappointing. To have these (SOU'S) facilities is just an incredible blessing they are absolutely amazing and immaculate. The amount of space that students can put their art up is invaluable. It gives them professional experience, gives them a resume line, and gives them a better insight on their work in progress. 📍

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FEATURE



April Showers Bring MAY ART SHOWS!

When winter rains recedes, wildflowers are not alone in blossoming in the Rogue Valley: Street fairs return, farmers' markets fill up city blocks, and it is the time of year for perennial art shows. Our Art Critic J.J. Rowan checks in on the growing art scenes in Medford and Ashland

FEATURE

MEDFORD IN BLOOM

Art Festival Celebrates Sixteenth Year

BY J.J. ROWAN

Mother's Day weekend has seen downtown Medford transform into an oasis of art, education, performance, and community at the Art in Bloom Festival for the past fifteen years. This year will be no different. On May 7th and 8th, Vogel Plaza and the surrounding blocks of downtown Medford will be filled with live music, fine artists, and interactive fun for all ages.

"There is really something for everyone," says event coordinator Amy Rose. She assures us that the sixteenth year of Art in Bloom will be huge and "very hands-on." Huge indeed: this once-small arts event originally occupied only two streets, while Year Sixteen will fill a whopping ten. It's also the only event left in downtown Medford proper, everything else having been moved to The Commons. Over the years, what began as a focused fine arts event has simply exploded into a full-blown festival that explores the many ways our community and beyond think and work creatively.

True to the event's origins, West Coast-based fine arts will be celebrated through exhibits and vendors—almost 100 artists and horticulturalists will be in attendance to showcase their work, an array of fine handmade goods from photography to jewelry to garden decor, just to name a few. There will also be art in motion with live graffiti and blown glass displays, among others, as well as returning chalk artist Jamie Bryn, whose creations come to life on the pavement.

Mothers will also be celebrated, as usual, at Art in Bloom. Not only is the festival a popular spot for last minute gift ideas for Mom, there will be free Mother's Day-focused activities for kids to take part in. Hope Ranch, a Eugene-based non-profit that raises awareness about and provides resources for survivors of human trafficking, will help children plant a flower to celebrate the women in their lives. There will also be an arts and crafts tent where kids can make their own piece of art for mom.

Other free events for kids include educational interactions with live animals: Nature Joe will give children the opportunity to hold a variety of animals at his "ark," which will be located between the Craterian Theater and the Rogue Gallery. There will be an additional petting zoo complete with ponies, goats, and baby ducks, for kids of *all* ages. ScienceWorks will be in attendance to provide yet more interactive fun with several hands-on exhibits, and Annie the clown will be a one-woman circus complete with face painting, a puppet theater, and a bounce house.

Though there's certainly plenty to celebrate at this event, celebration isn't the only goal of Art in Bloom: this non-profit strives to promote arts education in primary schools and, over the years, in addition to many years of festival organizing, has funded projects and awards all over the Rogue Valley.

Two days hardly seem enough to get through such a huge event. Still, save time to kick back with a refreshment and catch live music and dance performances, too. Food vendors will be in attendance, as well as lemonade stands designed and run by kid entrepreneurs. Don't worry: if you're looking for something a bit more adult,



PHOTOS BY LACIE LACY



there will be a pop-up bar complete with drink specials to help celebrate mom. The Bartlett Stage, which will be set up in the Banner Bank parking lot, will feature such local favorites as Blowin' Smoke and Blue Lightning, among others. The Demonstration Stage will showcase art through movement on Central Avenue.

Thanks to the continued efforts of this hard-working non-profit, downtown Medford is in for yet another year

of artistic transformation with Art in Bloom. As coordinator Amy Rose says, "At this point, it's so much more than just an art festival." 🎈

ART IN BLOOM

10 am - 5 pm, Saturday, May 7 and 11 am - 4 pm, Sunday, May 8

Vogel Plaza (and surrounding blocks), Medford

FEATURE

WORLD VIEW, LOCAL CREW

Ashland's First Annual Siskiyou de Mayo: A World Music Festival

By J.J. Rowan

"It cannot be stressed enough that an understanding and appreciation of music outside of the US (or at least 'Western' music) is instrumental in helping us not just understand, but truly appreciate other cultures," says Tom Berich, leader of Maraval Road Steel Band. This local ten-member group is, in fact, "the largest professional steel drum ensemble on the west coast," Berich shares. He's been performing as a professional steel pan player for more than twenty-four years and worked with SOU's Terry Longshore to develop Maraval Road: they've been around for three years with more than forty performances, but rarely perform in Ashland.

Lucky for us, that's about to change.

On Saturday, May 14, Maraval Road will be joined by an array of performers at the inaugural Siskiyou de Mayo: A World Music Festival. Last year, Ashland Parks and Recreation put on a small Cinco de Mayo event, featuring a musical performance and Latin rhythms workshop. Community interest and input helped sprout this seed: Lonny Flora, Recreation Manager at Parks and Rec coordinated what's become a multi-performer event in the hub of downtown at the Lithia Park Bandshell. Though Flora says there is already a growing vision for the future of Siskiyou de Mayo, it's going to start with the wealth of multicultural talent right here in the Rogue Valley.

"We're focusing on local groups," says Flora, who sees the possibility for inviting out-of-town talent in the future.

Among these groups is Salsa Brava!, an eight-piece multi-style dance band whose performances include Afro Cuban salsa, son Cubano, and Latin pop, among others. Singer Christina Marsilia, keyboardist Anne Muth, percussionist Mike Fitch, and trumpeter Joe Fascilla have been performing in Salsa Brava! since 2006. Additional members have been added over the years, giving the group its big sound and great musical diversity. The band's talent is well-known around the Rogue Valley, particularly their "beat that makes the

body want to move," Marsilia shares. This is evident in the salsa dance crowd that follows Salsa Brava! around the Rogue Valley each year, who will likely add some impromptu Latin dance from the audience.

from West Africa."

Though the group has only been performing since 2014, they have been holding dance classes for six years and drumming classes for five. This class community not

only helps make the performance group possible, but also contributes directly to Guinea, largely through the nonprofit organization Guinea Exchange. The group is led by dance instructor Cynthia Neeley with support from drum teacher Daouda White Eagle and Master drummer Dibo Camara.

They shared the deep connection that inspires their performances: "Every song we play has a specific meaning that relates to life. It is important to us to share this with our audience members as a way to pay homage to the roots of the music and dance we play."

The rest of the Siskiyou de Mayo line-up will include Rutendo Marimba, Frankie Hernandez Band, Ka Pi'o O Ke Anuenue with Ha'ena, and The Rogue Poets, a group of local wordsmiths assembled by T Poe, local Slam Master and the first MC for this yearly event. T Poe, who is no stranger to music festivals around the Rogue Valley and has been performing his own poetry for about a decade, was a logical choice. The poets joining him -- Blaine Alexander, Claudia Alick, Liesl Garner, and Scott Wozniak -- will offer up poetic material "promoting multiculturalism" between musical acts, shares T Poe: "All the acts will have a Latin flavor. This being the first annual festival, it will focus on this theme."

Though it's no small feat to get a brand new music festival up and running, Lonny Flora says "community sponsorships have been key." Sponsor Rands Art Design will be on site with their mobile print shop, which means you can buy a Siskiyou de Mayo t-shirt that will be printed before your eyes. The event is also sponsored by Main Street Tours and will feature free shuttle service to and from several locations around



PHOTO BY STEVE BUZALSKY

Also performing is Unity African Drum & Dance, a local group that teaches and performs West African music and movement: "When the organizers of Siskiyou de Mayo approached us with the idea we were very excited because everything we do is in the spirit of multiculturalism. We will be performing dances and rhythms that have been taught to us directly from Master teachers

town, making this diverse afternoon of music even more accessible. 📍

SISKIYOU DE MAYO: A WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

1 - 6 pm, Saturday, May 14

Lithia Park Bandshell, 340 S. Pioneer Street, Ashland

Free

Lithia Park Bandshell, Ashland

APRIL 30TH



6TH ANNUAL

MULTI-SPORT RELAY RACE

FOR SOLO, PAIR OR TEAM COMPETITORS
 13K CYCLE - 3K KAYAK - 30K CYCLE - 9K RUN - 13K MT BIKE - 6K RUN
 46 MILES AROUND BEAUTIFUL ASHLAND, OREGON
 + FUN RUN AND FARM FEST AT SCIENCEWORKS

SISKIYOUCHALLENGE.ORG

A BENEFIT FOR

RVFARM2SCHOOL.ORG

ZERO-WASTE EVENT
 PLEASE SUPPORT OUR
 EFFORTS, BRING DURABLE
 AND RECYCLABLE
 MATERIALS TO THE EVENT

SISKIYOU CHALLENGE
 PRIZES PROVIDED BY:
 MOUNTAIN PROVISIONS

Robin Pike, M.D. of Vista Pathology, Wellspring Centre for Body Balance, DrDeborahMD.com, JPR, Moss Adams LLP, The Krabbered Foundation, Rogue Valley Roasting Co., Ashland Chamber of Commerce, KSKQ

MAY 1ST

ROGUE FARM CORPS PRESENTS: 2ND ANNUAL SPRING BLOCK PARTY A MAY DAY EVENT



8 DOLLAR MOUNTAIN ASHLEIGH FLYNN DUO

SAMMICH - 424 BRIDGE STREET, ASHLAND

4-9PM • \$5-10 DONATION

BEER - CIDER - SAMMICHES
 BLOCK PARTY FUN FOR ALL AGES

A BENEFIT FOR:

ROGUE FARM CORPS

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

WWW.ROGUEFARMCORPS.ORG

ROGUE VALLEY THE MESSENGER'S

ANNUAL Flash Fiction Contest INVITES SUBMISSIONS

Using one of the two following prompts (or both, if you're feeling dynamic), write a compelling short story. Entries will be received by our editorial staff, and a panel of esteemed judges will select their favorite five:

She turned the envelope over in her hands. She had waited so long for this letter, but now she wasn't sure she could bring herself to open it.

The morning dew was still dripping from the leaves, and the sound of a branch snapping wasn't far away. From where he stood—or, was it hiding?—behind the bush, the noise seemed as if it could be as close as an arm's length.

You're invited

The rules are simple:

- Entries must not be longer than 600 words (yes, we understand that some of you cannot clear your throat in fewer than 1000 words, but this is micro-fiction). Word count does not include the prompt.
- Submit your story as a Word document attachment to Editorial@RogueValleyMessenger.com NO LATER THAN 5 PM MONDAY, MAY 2.
- The top five submissions will be published in our May 12 issue, and their authors will read their stories at a special event. (Details unveiled in our next issue!)

OUR JUDGES PANEL INCLUDES:

- Kumud Gokani, Best Author in the Valley, as voted by *Messenger* readers
- Karen Polsgrove, owner of Village Books in Medford
- Daniel Buck, Rogue Community College Writing Instructor

OUR *Picks*



thurs 28
Trick Pony

MUSIC—No tricks; Trick Pony is the rootinist-tootinist duo in country music. They first surfaced in 2001 with their hit single "Pour Me." After a lengthy hiatus, they came back together in 2014 to rock the country music world with their unique sound. Their most recent EP came out in February, called "It's a God Thing." 7 pm. Rocky Tonk Saloon, 333 E. Main Street, Medford.



fri 29 – sun 22
Once Upon a Mattress

THEATRE—As Tangled is to Rapunzel, so is Once Upon a Mattress to The Princess and the Pea. With a slight twist. During the play's appearances on Broadway, it was nominated for a Tony Award in 1996, when the role of Princess Winnifred was played by Sarah Jessica Parker. 1 and 7 pm. Randall Theatre, 10 E. Third Ave, Medford. \$18.



sat 30
Siskiyou Challenge

RACE—This event is more than a race; it is a, well, challenge. 13K cycle, 3K kayak, 30K cycle, 9K run, 13K mountain bike and 6K run. That is a lot of Ks. Best tackled with five, super in-shape pals. Or, perhaps best engaged as a spectator cheering on your best in-shape pals. Proceeds benefit Rogue Valley Farm to School program. 8 am. Starts at ScienceWorks, 1500 E. Main Street, Ashland. siskiyouchallenge.org



sat 30
Arbor Day Festival

FESTIVAL—Now that Earth Day is passed, the trees want a day just for themselves. Medford Mayor Gary Wheeler will make a "proclamation," live entertainment will be provided and Coyote Trails Skills Stations will teach an array of abilities centered around our silent friends who need a hug once in a while. 10:30 am - 1 pm. Coyote Trails Nature Center, 2931 S Pacific Hwy, Ashland. Free.



sat 30 – sun 1
Southern Oregon Motorcycle Swap Meet and Bike Show

SHOW—The agreeable weather beckons the biker in all of us to don our leathers and sweat the day away from the back of a hog. Accessories, parts and leather will all be available for viewing, purchasing and smelling, along with machines that go vroom. End of California Street, off Monument, Grants Pass (Merlin off ramp). \$5, day. \$8, two days. Kids, free.



sat 30
Listener

MUSIC—The trio Listener calls themselves besties, and they have perfected the fine art of "thought provoking stage banter," AKA "Talk Music." Later this year, they will embark on an extensive Europe tour, with their final sights set on South Africa, so be sure to catch them while they are on this side of the big pond. 6 pm. Eaden Ballroom, 244 SW K St, Grants Pass. \$10 donation.



sun 1
May Day

DAY—Whether you are uber traditional and dance around the maypole in simple celebration of spring, or uber activist and protest for workers' rights or immigration rights, this day has something for everyone. And that is yet another route to take: another May Day tradition is to place flowers on someone's doorstep, ring the doorbell, and run away before they answer the door. Awwwww.



thurs 5
Cinco de Mayo

DAY—While many believe that Cinco de Mayo is a special day set aside to drink all the margaritas that you can, it is actually a celebration to remember the Mexican Army's unlikely victory at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. But why not show your support by patronizing your local Mexican restaurant. And enjoy a margarita. In commemoration.



fri 6
New Hikes on the Oregon Coast

READING—Local author Bill Sullivan takes his readers to the Oregon Coast for more awesome hikes. Sullivan previously penned 100 Hikes in Southern Oregon, published in 2010, with offerings that are outside the standard fare of Crater Lake, the Rogue River and Mt. Shasta. Oregon Books and Games, 150 NE E Street, Grants Pass. Tickets \$5, which becomes store credit with purchase at the event.



sat 7 – sun 8
Singler Basketball Tournament

BASKETBALL—The Singler brothers are a legacy at South Medford High School, both going on to play for the NBA. This is the 10th annual tournament, drawing around 200 teams from OR, WA, CA and NV. Three games guaranteed. Boys and girls divisions, 7th & 8th, high school JV and Varsity. 7 am - 8 pm. Kids Unlimited, 821 N. Riverside, Medford. \$300 per team.



sat 7 – sun 8
Native American Arts Festival & Mothers' Day Pow Wow

FESTIVAL—Before the rave, there was ceremonial Native American drumming and dancing. Outdoors, with fewer flashing lights and much better wardrobe, traditional Native American dancing and drumming also carries much more meaning. And an official hand drum contest is sure to keep the party exciting. Riverside Park, 304 SE East Park Street, Grants Pass. Free.



sun 8
Mothers' Day

MOM—Sure, you could get a tattoo that simply states, "Mom," to represent your undying love, but what would she truly treasure? Flowers? Chocolate? Probably. But for most, a simple phone call or handmade card could possibly mean the most. Or, an afternoon spent together, if locations allow. Or, a gift certificate for a massage. Heaven knows she could use a little relaxation after raising you.

A PERFECT LOCATION FOR YOUR EVENT.

Space rentals for your class or program -- www.AshlandHaven.net



LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016 ASHLAND

SAVANNA TRIO - 12 to 1:30 pm - Liz Jones, Anna Christensen, and Bob Rawlings - Live Practice - Bon Voyage, Liz! Salame Restaurant, 47 N Main St.
JEFF KLOETZEL - Acoustic Pop / Folk / Rock & more - TAP: The Artisan Project (567 Fair Oaks Ave) - 5:30 to 7:30 pm.
DAVE PINSKY & PHIL NEWTON - Blues, Acoustic/Electric Duo - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm - No cover.
JOHN HOLLIS - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
SAGE MEADOWS & HIGH COUNTRY - The Wild Goose - 8 pm - No cover.
DART TOURNAMENT - The Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant - 7:30 pm - \$5.
OBEOKA KARAOKE with Starbuck - Oberon's Tavern - 9 pm - No cover.

CENTRAL POINT

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - PIZZA SCHMIZZA - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE

THE BROTHERS REED - Bella Union Restaurant and Saloon - 7 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

DAVID OUELLETTE - Limestone Coffee - 9:30 am - No cover.
DJ JIM 80'S / ALTERNATIVE / DANCE NIGHT - Howiee's On Front - 9 pm.
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - The Bohemian Club - 9 pm.
TRICK PONY - Featuring founding members Keith Burns and Heidi Newfield - Hit Country Song: "Johnny & June" - The Rocky-Tonk Saloon & Grill - 6 pm to 11 pm - \$15.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

ASHLAND

JOHN HOLLIS - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
MONTANA SOUL - Tom Klinefelter / Anna Christensen / Mikey Stevens - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm.
HOLLIS PEACH - Hear their new album, "Sometimes We Feel The Same!" - Special guests Eric Jones of Patchy Sanders and Reed Bentley from The Rogue Valley Symphony - La Baguette Bakery/Cafe - 8 to 10 pm.
CYD SMITH & MICHAEL WHIPPLE - Public House - 7:30 pm - No cover.
KARAOKE WITH JOSH - The Wild Goose - 8:30 pm - No cover.
LIQUID - Space Funk from Portland - Milagro's After Hours - 9 pm - \$10 - 21 and older.

GRANTS PASS

ROGUE REBELLION - Irish Inspired SKA Punk, Bluegrass, Rockabilly - G Street Bar & Grill - 8 pm to Midnight - No cover.
INTUITIVE COMPASS - Vaudevillian Folk - Jason O'Dea and Aurelia Cohen - Come out and show support for their upcoming tour this summer (San Francisco to Alaska!) Help make this happen, visit www.gofundme.com/intuitivecompass - The Haul - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE

THE BROTHER REED - Bella Union Restaurant and Saloon - 8 to 11 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

COMEDY NIGHT: SANDRA RISSER / OPENER: CHARLIE WIENER - Chadwicks Pub & Sports Bar - 9 pm - \$10.
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Pit Stop Tavern - 9 pm.
DJ MUSIC - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - 10 pm - No cover.

O'BRIEN

CIRCLE OF STONE - Classic Rock / Modern Country / Celtic - McGrew's Restaurant and Lounge - 8 pm.

PHOENIX

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Barkley's Bar - 9 pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

ASHLAND

OLD TIME JAM - El Nuevo Tapatio, 1633 Hwy 99 - 3:30 to 6 pm - No cover.
TIM CHURCH - Standing Stone Brewing Company - 5:30 pm - No cover.
DANIELLE KELLY & PAUL TURNIPSEED - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 to 8 pm - No cover.
KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
THE ROGUE VALLEY SPEAKEASY - Calling all poets, performers, bards, artists, writers, readers, performers and audience, and all in between!

Come together for a night on community, the spoken word, the singing voice, the storytelling, the dance. Speak Easy, share vulnerably, and listen deeply - Every last Saturday of the month - From poetry to dance to beatbox and freestyle - Competition free, instrument free, and please, hate free - The Ark, 1020 Benson Way in Ashland - 6:30 pm sign-ups - Shows starts at 7 pm - \$10 entry fee, \$5 for performers - Free organic soup and tea!

LIQUID GOLD - William Coulter & Edwin Huizinga - "An eclectic exploration into the fire and grace

Friendly event - Wood-Fired Pizza available for purchase - 4 to 8 pm.

THE FRET DRIFTERS - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 to 11 pm - No cover.

THE STAMPS - Robbie Lindauer, Anthony Cusenza, Robbie DaCosta, Frankie Hernandez - Psychobilly Gypsy Funk - Boomtown Saloon - 8:30 pm - 21 and older - Free.

MEDFORD

COMEDY NIGHT: SANDRA RISSER / OPENER: CHARLIE WIENER - Chadwicks Pub & Sports Bar - 9 pm - \$10.



APRIL 28 - TRICK PONY STOPS BY THE ROCKY-TONK IN MEDFORD

that connects the elements of classical, folks and contemporary musical traditions from around the world" - Tickets \$20 Adv / \$22 Door / \$10 Teens aged 12-17, Free under age 12 - Unitarian Fellowship - 8 pm - www.stclairerevents.com.

THE BROADWAY REVUE BURLESQUE SHOW - "Boobs, Brews, and The Broadway Revue!" - Featuring Bayou Bettie, Silent Mave, Kat Wondergloom, Taylor Maiden, and Stellar Sky, with Stage Kitten Holly Would and host, Mr. G. - 8 pm - \$5 cover.

KARAOKE WITH MAD MATTY - The Wild Goose - 9 pm - No cover.
THE ROGUE SUSPECTS - Blues, Funk, and R&B - Brickroom - 9 pm - \$10 cover.

GRANTS PASS

LISTENER / EVERETT / THE MOTIONS / I'M A LION, I'M A WOLF - Northwest Minotour 2016 - The Eaden Ballroom - 6 pm - \$10 donation.

MAD HATTER'S BALL - 4th Annual Party for a Cure - Proceed go towards Relay For Life of Josephine County - Live DJ & Dancing, Costumes & Crazy Hats Encouraged - Silent Auction and Spaghetti Dinner - Tickets \$25 each, or 2 for \$40 - 6 pm to 10 pm - 21 and older event at Evergreen's Bear Hotel, 2101 Spalding Ave. - 541-226-8910

- KidZone will be hosting a Crazy Hat event at the same time so parents can drop off their kiddos. Kidzone: 2160 NW Vine St in Grants Pass, 541-472-4800.

ROGUE RAGE DUO - Griess Family Brews (Happy Two Year Anniversary) - 7 to 10 pm - No cover.
DELUXE - 4-Piece Classic Rock & Blues Band - G Street Bar & Grill - 8 pm to Midnight - No cover.

REASON TO REBEL - This Gun Is Human U.S. Tour - Hard Rock from southern California - The Haul - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE

SWAMP CREEK CARTEL - Old-Time Country & Bluegrass - Seasonal Opening Celebration at Wild Wines, 4550 Little Applegate Rd. - Free, Family-

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Pit Stop Tavern - 9 pm.
THE MONDEGREENS FT SLOW CORPSE - "a rock group based in Seattle, WA churning out a new take on California Soul: song-based rock & roll, infused with R&B, psychedelia, and folk" - Slow Corpse is a local favorite from Ashland - Howiee's On Front - 9 pm - No cover.

ROCK MUSIC 7 pm / DJ MUSIC 10 pm - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - No cover.
CLUB MUSIC - The Bohemian Club - 10 pm - No cover.

PHOENIX

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Barkley's Bar - 9 pm.

ROGUE RIVER

ELK MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES & MAY DAY FESTIVAL - The Brothers Reed, Ol' Mountain Due, Intuitive Compass, The Curtain Climbers (aerial dance), Jefferson Pipe Band, Coyote Rising Puppet Troupe, Ancient Skills Demos, Vendors and Food, Weapons Contests, Beard & Braids Contest, Youth & Kids Activities - Two day event at 8205 East Evans Creek Rd - April 30 from 9 am until dusk, May 1 from 9 am to 3 pm. Two day pass \$15 Adults / \$10 Youth. One day pass \$10/\$5. Kids 10 and younger attend Free.

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2016

ASHLAND

LIVE CELTIC MUSIC SESSION - Music of Ireland, Scotland and Wales - The Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant - 2 pm - No cover.

SPRING BLOCK PARTY AT SAMMICH - Second Annual Spring Block Party, presented by and benefiting Rogue Farm Corps - Featuring Music by Eight Dollar Mountain (6pm) and Ashleigh Flynn Duo (4:15 pm) - \$5-\$10 Donation - Kids Zone featuring bubbles, sidewalk chalk, flower crowns and more! Beer from Ninkasi Brewing, cider from 2 Towns Ciderhouse, and delicious food by, you guessed it, Sammich, 424 Bridge Street.

JEFF KLOETZEL - Guitarist / Singer-Songwriter

- "from driving modern tunes to timeless ballads" - Belle Fiore Winery - 4:30 - 6:30 pm - No cover.
KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
JIM QUINBY - 6 pm / LITTLE THOM'S OPEN MIC W/ DAVE HAMPTON - 9 pm - The Wild Goose - No cover.

MEDFORD

OPEN MIC W/ ROBBIE DACOSTA - Jefferson Spirits - 7 pm - No cover.
KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Karaoke Competition, 1st place wins \$50 - Pit Stop Tavern - 9 pm.

PHOENIX

LIVE MUSIC - Acoustic Afternoon w/ brunch (min \$5 order) - The Phoenix Clubhouse - 12 to 3 pm.

MONDAY, MAY 2

ASHLAND

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
PAUL SCHMELING TRIO - Martino's Restaurant & Lounge - 7 pm - No cover.

OPEN MIC - All ages 5 pm - 7:30 pm. Over 21 Open Mic 8:30 pm - 1:30 am - Oberon's Three Penny Tavern - No cover.

MEDFORD

GEEKS WHO DRINK PUB TRIVIA - BricktownE Brewing Company - 7 pm - No cover.
TRIVIA NIGHT - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - 7:30 pm - No cover.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

ASHLAND

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
TRIVIA NIGHT - Louie's Restaurant & Bar - 7 pm - No cover.

FECKIN' TINKERS TUESDAY - Infectious Irish Music - Oberon's Three Penny Tavern - 8 pm - No cover.

FIREFLY / MINIKER - An evening of sound and inspiration with two Oregon based female musicians, featuring live painting by Davine Snyder - Jackson WellSprings - \$10 - \$20 sliding scale - 8 pm.

SPOKEN WORD OPEN MIC - Free event every first Tuesday of every month, starting in May, 2016 - Hosted by T Poe - All Ages from 8 pm to 9 pm, 21+ after 9 pm - Milagro's Fresh Mexican - www.milagrosashland.com/events.

ROBBIE DACOSTA - Every Tuesday - Granite Taphouse - 8:30 pm.

MEDFORD

LINE DANCE LESSONS - Rocky Tonk Saloon & Grill - 7 pm - No cover.
DEATHBLOW / PROCLAIMER - Johnny B's - 9 pm - 21 and older.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

ASHLAND

SPAGHETTI GAME NIGHT - Enoteca - Free all you can eat pasta with any wine purchase - Stay and play board games - 5 pm - No cover.

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

JIM MALACHI - "Jim Malachi began his musical career in the Rogue Valley 30 years ago at Ashland's historic Mark Antony Hotel, where he resided and performed nightly as guitarist/vocalist for three years. Come enjoy his infectious musical presence and unique treatment of your favorite songs" - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 - 8 pm - No cover.

FREE POOL & MUSIC - The Wild Goose - Free pool from 6 to midnight every Wednesday - Music at 8 pm - No cover.

GRANTS PASS

OPEN JAM NIGHT - Griess Family Brews - 6 pm - No cover.

HONKYTONK WEDNESDAYS - Cedarwood Saloon & Grill - 7 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

TRIVIA NIGHT - Howiee's On Front - 7 pm - No cover.
TRIVIA NIGHT - Portal Brewing Company - 7:30 pm - No cover.

VILLA COOLA / RYLEI FRANKS - Johnny B's - 9 pm - 21 and older.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

ASHLAND

CINCO DE MAYO WITH FRANKIE HERNANDEZ - Milagro's Fresh Mexican - 5 pm - Free - All ages - Food & drink specials all day!

LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*

ED DUNSAVAGE TRIO - Jazz - Ed Dunsavage / Joe Cohoon / Gary "Chicken" Hirsh - Voted 'Favorite Jazz Group' in the Ashland 2012 & 2014 Sneak Preview Readers Poll - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 - 8 pm - No cover.

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

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

CINCO DE MAYO SALSA PARTY - Dance lessons from Chayanne from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm - 2 Rooms Dance: Salsa Room / Bachata Room - DJ El Santo Open Dance 9:30 pm to 1:45 am. Brickroom - \$5 cover.

OBEOKA KARAOKE with Starbuck - Oberon's Tavern - 9 pm - No cover.

CENTRAL POINT

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - PIZZA SCHMIZZA - 9 pm.

JACKSONVILLE

TEN SPIDERS - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 to 10 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

DAVID OUELLETTE - Limestone Coffee - 9:30 am - No cover.

LEGENDS OF THE ROAD SERIES: THE BAND - Craterian Music Hall presents its second concert in its "Legend" Series, featuring songs like, "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down," "Up on Cripple Creek" & "The Weight." Returning are the talented musicians from the inaugural Music Hall show - Introducing, "The Pill Messengers" (a new moniker for the untitled but often referred to "Bob Dylan Tribute Band"): Jeff Pevar (BIG NEWS: Jeff Pevar was recently inducted into the New York Blues Hall of Fame!!!), Bret Levick, Doug Warner, Inger Jorgensen, Jade Chavis Watt, Don Harriss, Matthew Kriemelman, and Jeff Addicott - Craterian Theater - May 5 through 7 - 7:30 pm - All ticket \$24.

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - The Bohemian Club - 9 pm.

OPEN JAM - Rocky Tonk Saloon & Grill - 9:30 pm - No cover.

O'BRIEN

CINCO DE MAYO PARTY WITH DJ GALxSEE - McGrew's Restaurant and Lounge - \$2 Tacos - 7 pm - No cover.

PHOENIX

SLOW HUG TOUR EVENT: CINCO DE MAYO AT THE CLUBHOUSE - (Slow Corpse + Group Hug = Slow Hug) - The Phoenix Clubhouse - Doors open at 6 pm - All ages show - Donations welcome for Slow Hug Tour 2016 to Texas!

FRIDAY, MAY 6

ASHLAND

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

NOT TOO SHABBY - Jazz, R&B, Blues, Pop, and more - Lisa Yriarte / Pete Brown / Matthew Kriemelman - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 - 8 pm - No cover.

KARAOKE WITH JOSH - The Wild Goose - 8:30 pm - No cover.

THE SINGER & THE SONGWRITER - Original music by Rachel Garcia & Thu Tran - "Sophisticated but playful" (BuzzBands LA) "... just the right amount of jazz, blues, and a modern edge, the duo brings out the best in each other." (Playback: STL) - Public House - 8:30 pm - No cover.

BANTA - They're making a special hometown stop as part of their West Coast tour, promoting the release of their debut album, Dark Charms (out June 3, 2016). "Don't let the name fool you, "Dark Charms" is one of the brightest, deepest, loveliest records of the year. If Fleetwood Mac and Rilo Kiley raised a baby in hipster enclave Echo Park, Banta would be that lovely girl and "Dark Charms" would be her glorious 20-something coming out party." - (Popdose) - Milagro's After Hours - 9 pm - \$10 at the door.

RHYTHM CHAMBER: 2ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRAGON - Duffrey / Zia Zombie / Serendipity / Visuals by Zachariah - "Eclectically mind-bending beats and delightful dancing!" Dragon Gongfu Tea House - 9 pm - Every First Friday, "dedicated to community-oriented expression through movement, art, top shelf bass/glyphic/electronic music and of course, some very delectable tea."

GRANTS PASS

FLOURISH - An art show by Kala Noel with live music by Object Heavy (Soul / Funk/R&B from

Arcata, CA) - The Haul - 7 pm to Midnight.

JACKSONVILLE

DEAN ANGERMEIER & TERI COTE - Bella Union Restaurant & Saloon - 8 to 10 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

LEGENDS OF THE ROAD SERIES: THE BAND - Craterian Theater - 7:30 pm - \$24.

COMEDY NIGHT: NIGEL LARSON / OPENER: SUSAN RICE - Chadwicks Pub & Sports Bar - 9 pm - \$10.

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



MAY 6 - HEAR BANTA'S 'DARK CHARMS' ALBUM AT MILAGROS

FUNKNWHATEVER - Johnny B's - 9 pm.

PHOENIX

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Barkley's Bar - 9 pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

ASHLAND

CASBAH REOPENING - Yoga, Tea, Music & Community Celebration plus visionary artists, vending, food, & fun - Angela Jeanne Hartnett, Xuba Evaristo, Destiny Love, Andrew Hanuman Jones, Zahara Solomon, Tenley Wallace, Erial Ali, Firefly, Alexis, DJ Solus, Fractal Love Jam - Jackson WellSprings - 9 am to 10:30 pm - All day - Free Community Event!

OLD TIME JAM - El Nuevo Tapatio, 1633 Hwy 99 - 3:30 to 6 pm - No cover.

SYMPHONY OF SPRING FLAVORS - Presented by the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon - An event showcasing accomplished Youth Symphony musicians, Grizzly Peak Wines, catering by Ashland Gourmet, and silent and live auctions benefiting the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon - Grizzly Peak Winery, 1600 E Nevada St - 4 to 6 pm - \$50 per person.

TIM CHURCH - Standing Stone Brewing Company - 5:30 pm - No cover.

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

GRANT RUIZ AND DAN FELLMAN - Classical / Jazz guitarists - Belle Fiore Winery - 6 - 8 pm - No cover.

EXULT: A TRIBAL CIRCUS FOR ALL SENSES - Join The Ark and JamQwest for ecstatic dance with Tribal, electro and world music DJ sets, circus aerialist performances, tribal dance performers, fire performers, live tribal drum performances, and live exotic instrumental music. The Ark Temple area will be matted for yoga play where guests are invited to stretch, meditate, breathe, perform acro yoga, or just congregate with fellow tribesman. Theta waves, sacred drums, sacred tea and cacao ceremonies, tarot readings, holistic healers, and more! Plus fun like pigeon jousting, hula play, and juggling! The Ark - 8 pm to 2 am - \$15 Adv / \$20 at the door. "Surround yourself with the dreamers and the doers. The believers and the creators. The movers and shakers but most of all, with those who see the greatness within you."

KARAOKE WITH MAD MATTY - The Wild Goose

- 9 pm - No cover.

GRANTS PASS

BERNER - On the Fireside Stage, Josephine County Fairgrounds - 2 pm doors, 3 pm show ends at 7 pm - \$15 - Visit: Nightout.com/events/berner-live/tickets.

GRANTS PASS HIGH SCHOOL JAZZFEST - Dinner, Show & Auction - Come feel the power of live rock, jazz and big band music, featuring: Kemtone 4tet, OSO Jazz Ensemble, Funktional Fusion, Rogue Gold, and the GPHS Jazz Ensemble

cover.

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.
JIM QUINBY 6 pm / LITTLE THOM'S OPEN MIC W/ DAVE HAMPTON 9 pm - The Wild Goose - No cover.

MEDFORD

OPEN MIC WITH ROBBIE DACOSTA - Jefferson Spirits - 7 pm - No cover.

KRANK IT UP KARAOKE - Karaoke Competition, 1st place wins \$50 - Pit Stop Tavern - 9 pm.

PHOENIX

LIVE MUSIC - Acoustic Afternoons w/ brunch (min \$5 order) - The Phoenix Clubhouse - 12-3 pm.

MONDAY, MAY 9

ASHLAND

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

HIP HOP POETRY OPEN MIC AT OSF - OSF opens their stage once more for the community to share their talents via all styles of poetry, music, dance and theatre. The featured artist on May 9 is Gene Burnett. He's written over 600 songs since 1975 and show no signs of stopping! Covering a wide range of topics and styles, his songs explore the ecology of human relationships, based on the Taoist idea of using less force and following an inner sense of rightness. He also teaches T'ai-Chi along the same lines. - Black Swan Theater at OSF

- Doors open at 6:30 pm, space limited - Free and open to the community. OSF has been producing poetry slams and open mics since 2007. Thanks, OSF!

PAUL SCHMELING TRIO - Martino's Restaurant & Lounge - 7 pm - No cover.

OPEN MIC - (Under 21) Sign up 5 pm / Show 5:30 pm - Open Mic (Over 21) Sign up 8 pm / Show 8:30 pm - Oberon's Three Penny Tavern - No cover.

MEDFORD

GEEKS WHO DRINK PUB TRIVIA - BricktownE Brewing Company - 7 pm - No cover.

TRIVIA NIGHT - 4 Daughters Irish Pub - 7:30 pm - No cover.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

ASHLAND

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

TRIVIA NIGHT - Louie's Restaurant & Bar - 7 pm - No cover.

FECKIN' TINKERS TUESDAY - Oberon's Three Penny Tavern - 8 pm - No cover.

ROBBIE DACOSTA - Every Tuesday - Granite Taphouse - 8:30 pm.

MEDFORD

LINE DANCE LESSONS - Rocky Tonk Saloon & Grill - 7 pm - No cover.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

ASHLAND

SPAGHETTI GAME NIGHT - Enoteca - Free all you can eat pasta with any wine purchase - Stay and play board games - 5 pm - No cover.

KEN HART - Acoustic Guitar - Callahan's Mountain Lodge - 6 pm - No cover.

CAVE JUNCTION

OPEN MIC - Wild River Brewing & Pizza Company - 6 pm - No cover.

GRANTS PASS

OPEN JAM NIGHT - Griess Family Brews - 6 pm - No cover.

HONKYTONK WEDNESDAYS - Cedarwood Saloon & Grill - 7 pm - No cover.

CHAOS COMEDY NIGHT AT THE HAUL - 2nd Wednesdays starting in March - Sketch comedy / Improv comedy / Music - The Haul - Music at 7:30 pm - Comedy at 8 pm - No cover.

MEDFORD

TRIVIA NIGHT - Portal Brewing Company - 7:30 pm - No cover.

MEGAFAUNA / 100 WATT MIND - Johnny B's - 9 pm

PHOENIX

OPEN MIC & JAM - Every Wednesday - Fully backlined - Some instruments available like drums, keyboard, & guitar - The Phoenix Clubhouse - 7 to 10 pm - Free - All Ages - All talent levels are welcome. 🍷

Email your event links and information to Events@roguevalleymessenger.com.

EVENTS

Art

ART IN BLOOM

May 7, 2016, from 10 to 5 pm, and May 8, from 11 to 4 pm. Join us in this springtime celebration of fine arts and flowers, the 15th Anniversary of Art in Bloom. Downtown Medford will be filled with fascinating sights and sounds as it hosts thousands of people in this two-day visual arts, entertainment, and cultural event held every Mother's Day weekend. Enjoy fun activities for the whole family, including a children's area, music & performances, and over 120 artists and horticulturists displaying their best works.

ART DU JOUR GALLERY

Art du Jour Gallery is a co-op exhibiting works by many talented artists living in the greater Rogue Valley and region. On exhibit are works in watercolor, oil, acrylic, pastel, pen & ink, conte crayon, collage, sculpture, bronze casting, photography and mixed media. All original art exhibited may be purchased as well Giclee Prints, cards and other specialty art items. Normal hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 am - 4 pm. Art du Jour Gallery is located in the heart of downtown Medford at 213 E. Main St. There is convenient, free 2 hour parking in the parking garage at 6th St and Riverside Ave.

CLINK! A TASTE OF OREGON WINE

Through April 31, 2016, celebrate the wonders of Oregon wine and the people who make it possible in "Clink! A Taste of Oregon Wine," a traveling exhibition curated by the Oregon Historical Society in collaboration with local history organizations and industry leaders. Clink! traces the history of Oregon wines, featuring 12 colorful banners with photographs and text illustrating the history of the flourishing Oregon wine industry. The Southern Oregon Historical Society is located at 106 North Central Avenue in Medford.

IN SCENE

April 7 through June 11. The Schneider Museum of Art presents 'In Scene,' a group exhibition of eight artists who explore the state of the natural world in modern times through video, installation, site-specific outdoor installation, sculpture, and photographs. Works by: Adam Bateman, Anna Daedalus, Kerry Davis, Tannaz Farsi, MK Guth, Rashawn Griffin, Laura Heit, and Jesse Sugarman. Thursday, April 7 through June 11, 2016, normal hours are Monday through Saturday, from 10 am - 4 pm. Schneider Museum of Art is located at Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd. in Ashland.

NUDES

April 1 - 30, 2016. Studio A.B. presents work created by ten artists, created in response to and inspired by artist Greeley Wells film "Nude," where those artists and models discuss their relationship with the nude in their artwork. Bruce Bayard presents a video loop of experimental image collage. Ann DiSalvo displays a drawing from the series recently supported by a grant from the Haines Foundation. The series pairs humans and animals in a pose of mutual respect. Kevin Christman presents a small figurative study in bronze. Inger Jorgensen and Gabriel Lipper present paintings, Daniel Verner, Robyn Reitz and Greeley Wells, drawings. Lisa Byrne and Irene Kai, photography. Exhibit is at Studio A.B., 621 A Street, Ashland.

OREGON FRINGE FESTIVAL

May 9 through 14, 2016. What is Fringe? "Fringe is: Next level. Fringe is: Exploring new realities through artistic experience. Fringe is: Anticipation! Fringe is coming." Presenting original performances and artistic collaborations in a variety of mediums not traditionally represented in the mainstream art world. Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd. in Ashland, Oregon. #TheNewNew / www.oregonfringefestival.org.

PANTA RHEI

Come to an artist reception with Jolene Monheim on Friday, May 6, from 5 to 8 pm, featuring Jolene's "Panta Rhei." "I am a painter who stumbles upon photography and fell in love. My work is about beauty, reflections, harmony, the magic of collaboration, and relationships. Especially the relationship we have with our bodies and how we relate to our environment. The shapes that our bodies take in a watery environment fascinates me, and I primarily use water as the context within which the models explore their sensations of being held." - Jolene Monheim. View the photography of Jolene Monheim from May 1 through June 31 at Love Revolution, 383 East Main Street, Ashland.

ROGUE GALLERY

April 22 - May 26, 2016 in the Main Gallery: Garden Frolic: Jonnel Covault, Julia Janeway and Randall Perkins (Reception: May 20, 5-8 pm). April 29 - May 26, 2016 in the Community Gallery: Second Glance: Paul Jorizzo, sponsored by Ed and Marie Houck.

Reception: Fri, May 20, 5 - 8 pm. April 15 - June 7 in the Berryman Gallery: Lo Smucker. The Rogue Gallery and Art Center, 40 S. Bartlett St., Medford. Hours: Tues-Fri, 10 - 5 pm / Sat 11 - 3 pm.

Classes

DIVE DEEP INTO PLANTS SERIES

Sundays, May 1, 22 & 29, from 11 am to 4 pm. A broad and in-depth immersion into wild and non-wild plants of the Rogue Valley and surrounding mountains. This beginner course will take you on a journey of learning the historical uses of plants for first aid in the forest or at home. Pre-registration is required. Fee \$150 (for entire series). See details



APRIL 29 - MAY 2 - CELEBRATE THE LEGACY OF ROBIN STIEHM AS DANCING PEOPLE COMPANY PRESENT 'SPRING VISIONS - A SALON CELEBRATION' IN ASHLAND

at www.CoyoteTrails.org. Questions? Contact Lynne at 541-772-1390. Coyote Trails Nature Center, 2931 South Pacific Hwy., Medford, Oregon.

FELTING FRIDAYS AT ASHLAND ART CENTER

Every Friday, 3:30 to 5 pm. Learn the easy and fun art of needle-felting wool, and create your own collection of cute, furry, and unique animal miniatures! Classes are fun, relaxed, with personal instruction on your unique project. \$10. All materials included. Scholarships available. Adults and children 8+ are welcome to attend classes; kids under 8 with parent supervision. No prior registration required, just drop in on class day. Private lessons, take-home kits and needle felting supplies available! www.wooliza.com / www.ashlandartcenter.org. Ashland Art Center, 357 East Main Street, Ashland.

IT'S QUITTIN' TIME!

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, and 18, from 2 to 3 pm. Quitting Smoking is one of the most important choices someone can make to improve their health. Deciding to stop is the first step, but having support while quitting is the key to success. AllCare Health is offering a series of classes to help local residents quit smoking and make it stick. Those who enroll are encouraged to attend all six classes in a series. The series is free and open to all Southern Oregonians; however, RSVP is required. You do NOT need to be an AllCare member for this. Call AllCare Health to enroll at 541-471-4106. Summer session is July 13 - August 17. Fall session is October 12 through November 16. Josephine County Public Health, 715 NW Dimmick St., Grants Pass.

MISSMOOSAIC'S OPEN STUDIO SESSIONS

"Being creative helps to focus and calm the mind while feeding the soul." Beginning January 6th, 2016, sessions will be held Wednesdays from 6 - 9 pm, and Sundays from noon - 3 pm. This isn't a class, per se, but an opportunity to learn from me at your own pace, and work on what YOU want to make. You may participate up to twice a week. Drop in at any point in the session for a minimum of one, and a maximum of 3 hours. Drop in rate is 1 hour for \$15 or a block of 8 hours for \$96, saving you \$3/hr. Some materials provided. Contact Karen at missmosaicgirl@yahoo.com or call 541-621-6239. MissMosaic Studios at 105 John St. in Talent.

MOMENT IN TIME MODERN DANCE CLASSES

Monday and Thursday nights, from 5:30 - 6:30 pm. \$12 per class or 10% off if paid monthly. Oak Street Dance Studio at 1287 Oak St. in Ashland.

PAINT & SIP - PEAR BLOSSOM THEME

Sunday, May 1, from 1 to 5 pm. Come paint a Pear Blossom themed painting with the Brushed Cork artists while sipping EdenVale wines and enjoying a

view of our blossoming Pear Orchard! \$50 per person includes 1 glass of wine and all art supplies. Call Brushed Cork for reservations at 541-840-3116 or visit www.thebrushedcork.com. Edenvale Winery, 2310 Voorhies Road, Medford, Oregon.

SUMMERTIME FUN: UNLEASH YOUR PLAYFUL SIDE IN A MAGICAL GARDEN.

May through August, 2016. Adult Classes - Mondays: Writing. Tuesday: Drawing. Both Adult classes are from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Children's Classes - Tuesdays: Drawing & Writing from 10 to 11:30 am. Location is in Phoenix, Oregon. Please call Rosemarie for more information at 541-535-3821.

11 am - 1 pm. Veteran Services, Thursdays from 9 am - 1 pm: Chuck Hanger, Jeff Nichols, James Raison, and Frederic Berger are available to help veterans with such issues as homelessness, employment, and veterans' benefits. Tuesdays, 9 am - 12 Noon: Drug, Alcohol and Crisis Counseling: Counseling for individuals who are facing drug or alcohol abuse, and individuals who are in crisis. Tuesdays, 9 am - 12 Noon: Dress for Success; Job interview clothing and advice is available for people in the process of finding employment. Ashland Community Resource Center, 572 Clover Lane in Ashland. Clover Lane is located next to Exit 14 off I-5 in Ashland, Oregon.

ELK MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES & MAY DAY FESTIVAL

Sat, April 30 (9am - dusk) and Sun, May 1, (9am - 3 pm). Southern Oregon has a new tradition and it's the Elk Mountain Highland Games & May Day Festival! This event celebrates the return of spring with the gathering of the village. Compete in the heavy athletics and edged weapons contests, dance around the May Pole with giant puppets, watch as cob builders and blacksmiths practice their crafts. Wander the Vendor Village and see fine merchants alongside acupuncturists, herbalists, and demonstrations of primitive skills. Musical performances by the Jefferson Pipe Band, The Brothers Reed, Ol' Mountain Due, Intuitive Compass, and serial silk performers, the Curtain Climbers! Plus special guests, and a beard & braid contest, food and more! This event is a benefit for the Evans Valley Community Association & Community Center. Two Day Pass: Adults \$15 / Children \$10. One Day Pass: Adults \$10 / Children \$5. Age 10 and younger Free. Visit www.elkmountaingames.com for more information. Location: 8205 E Evans Creek Road, Rogue River, Oregon, 97537. From I-5, take Exit 48 (City of Rogue River).

FREE TOURS OF THE HISTORIC HOLLY THEATRE

Saturday, May 7, from 10 - 1 pm. The historic Holly Theatre is open for free public tours on the first Saturday of each month. Opened in 1930, the Holly is the last remaining grand movie palace in Medford and is being restored to its original grandeur to become the largest indoor entertainment venue in the region. Visitors to the theater will gain a unique insight into the theater's history and promising future! Tours are offered every half-hour and will last approximately 1 hour. Please be advised that the interior of the building is still under construction. Visitors are encouraged to wear closed-toe walking shoes, and should be comfortable using stairs. Accommodations can be made for visitors with limited mobility. Groups of 10 or more and private donors may arrange private tours. Holly Theater, 226 W Sixth St. Medford, Oregon. Free.

PHOENIX CITY-WIDE ANNUAL YARD SALE

Saturday, May 14, 2016. Fun annual community celebration! Along with yards sales, check out the Phoenix Garden Club's Annual Scholarship Fundraising Plant Sale from 9 am to 1 pm at Ray's, 735 Main St. Go to the Spring Book Sale at the Phoenix Branch Library from 9 am to 2 pm at 510 West 1st Street. There will be a rummage sale at the First Presbyterian Church, 121 West 2nd Street. (Note: This next part is the reason why this event is listed in this Messenger issue, which covers April 28 to May 11 - Jordy). If you are a business that would like to participate or an individual having a yard sale that would like to list your sale on our flyer, please contact the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce at 541-535-6956, or email info@phoenixoregonchamber.org by May 12. Visit www.PhoenixOregonChamber.org.

ROUND IT UP AND TURN IT IN: RECYCLING DROP-OFF

Saturday, May 7, 2016, from 10 am to 5 pm. The 3rd annual Drop-Off is being held at the Talent City Hall. You may drop off the following: Electronic waste (Guidelines at ECSRefining.com, 541-772-8023), Metals (Schnitzersteel.com, 541-826-5758), Building materials (RogueValleyHabitat.org), Confidential Paper Shredding (RogueDisposal.com, 541-608-1023), Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (AshlandGeneralHardware.com), Styrofoam Packing Peanuts (Clean and dry, please. No blocks, only peanuts), Household Goods (only clean, reusable items in good or better condition. Visit sogoodwill.org for guidelines, 541-772-4753). Talent City Hall, 110 East Main Street.

SPRING GARDEN FAIR

Sat, April 30, from 9 am to 5 pm, and Sun, May 1, 2016, from 10 am to 4 pm. Join us for the 37th Annual Spring Garden Fair, produced by the Jackson County Master Gardener Association. "Best Garden Show & Plant Sale in Southern Oregon." Over 100 plant and yard exhibitors, Free Gardening Demonstrations, Free Potting Station, Free Soil pH Testing, plus Free Well Water Nitrate Testing (10-3 pm, Bring a cup of cool well water, collected from a pre-treatment tap. Patton

Community

2016 SEED MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Support quality seed in the Rogue Valley! The Southern Oregon Seed Growers Association (SOSGA), through the funding of a Western SARE grant, is offering a mentorship program to new and beginning seed growers. The mentorship includes up to 10 hours of on-farm consulting during the 2016 growing season. There is compensation for the mentor time and driving mileage. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or a mentee, please contact Andrew Schwarz at schwarz.andrew@gmail.com.

ARBOR DAY 2016 AT COYOTE TRAILS

Saturday, April 30, 2016, 10:30 am to 1 pm. Trees are assets to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of and sense of community in a neighborhood and they increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants, provide wildlife habitat, and many other benefits! Celebrate the new growing season and Arbor Day at the Coyote Trails Nature Center at U.S. Cellular Community Park! Presented by Medford Parks and Recreation and our many partners, the annual Arbor Day celebration features tree planting and Heritage Tree recognition. MPRD and Coyote Trails offer people of all ages the chance to learn, participate and experience the wonderful resources of our area. Vendors and Booths beginning at 10:30 am, Official Arbor Day Proclamation and the Tree City USA award presentation at 11 am. Entertainment: Lumina, Katie Buttermore, and the Rogue Valley Peace Choir. U.S. Cellular Community Park, 300 Lowry Lane, Medford. Call Coyote Trails (541-282-8577) for more information or directions to the Arbor Day event.

CALL FOR POTTERS! CALL FOR BOWLS!

Empty Bowls Supper is coming May 13, 2016. Donations of Handmade Bowls ease hunger! If you have pottery or handmade soup bowls to offer for the 5th Annual Empty Bowls Supper, please contact Peace House at 541-482-9625 or Zoe at 541-482-2335. Thank You! Your donations are turned into support for local groups assisting those with hunger challenges. It makes a difference.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

The Ashland Community Resource Center (ACRC) offers food and companionship, access to telephones and on-line computers as well as a mail drop, message center services, clothing and toiletries. More in-depth services, such as aid in completing applications for low income housing, help with replacements of personal identification and case management are also available but generally require more than one day. Listening Post: Volunteers are available to listen without judgement, providing no feedback, no recommendations and no advice, Thursdays from

EVENTS

Environmental LLC - 541-690-9983). Admission is \$3 for ages 15 and older. www.jacksoncountymga.org or call 541-776-7371. Jackson County Expo, 1 Peninger Rd., Central Point. On I-5, take exit 33.

NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS FESTIVAL AND MOTHER'S DAY POW-WOW

Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8, from 10 am to 7 pm each day. Jack Falls-Rock invites you to participate in a family event where you can learn and enjoy: Native Dancing, Native Art, Native Singing, and food. Hand drum contest, Dance Exhibition, Raven Dance by Earl Huitt, Raffle, Coyote Kitchen Fry Bread and Indian Tacos, plus 50/50 Raffle. Drum Groups: Elk Thunder, Little Eagle Drum, Dances With Bears, Dancing Thunder, Good Medicine, Counting Coup, and Little Bears. Special presentation on Sunday by Angela Hartnett at 3 pm - Free Gifts of Flowers! This event is part of "The Amazing May" - graciously supported by the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce. Event is at Riverside Park, 304 SE Park St, Grants Pass, Oregon. Free family event, everyone is welcome! Info: 541-973-1155, ask for Jack. www.nativeartsfestival.com.

THE CONVERSATION PROJECT SEEKS SPRING HOSTS

Through May 31, 2016. Oregon nonprofits and community groups are invited to join the more than 200 organizations that have hosted public discussions through the Conversation Project (a program of Oregon Humanities), which offers humanities-based programs about provocative issues and ideas. Conversation Project programs are opportunities for Oregonians to talk about things that matter - things like food, privacy, race, the purpose of education, and our relationship to the natural world - in exploratory and thoughtful ways. Trained facilitators guide the discussions, connecting each subject to participants' experiences and to the local community and challenging participants to think in new ways without advocating a particular perspective. Through May 31, 2016, Oregon nonprofits and community groups may apply to host Conversations Project programs that take place between July 1 and August 31, 2016. View the catalog and instructions for host organizations at OregonHumanities.org. Contact Oregon Humanities Office Manager Mikaela Schey at 503-241-0543 or 800-735-0543, ext. 110, or email m.schey@oregonhumanities.org.

TRANSPORT YOURSELF & OTHERS BACK IN TIME!

Would you like to learn how to take yourself and others back in time, for instance, to the 1850s? Learn to be a historic Hanley Farm Museum Docent, lead visitors back through time as you tell them about the farm's history. Here's your opportunity to learn about a place where human occupancy dates back 4,000 years, and where farming has been practiced since the 1850s. Hanley Docents give tours of the Historic Hanley Farmhouse during many events, including the third Thursday of the month April through October. Download a volunteer application from our website, www.sohs.org; from the "Get Involved" tab on the drop-down menu bar, select "Volunteer for SOHS." Hanley Farm, 1053 Hanley Road, Central Point. 541-773-6536, ext. 202 or email info@sohs.org.

WOMEN GROW

Thursday, May 5, from 6:30 pm to 11 pm. Women Grow Southern Oregon Chapter is excited to announce its signature networking event and party. Their events "connect aspiring and current professionals in the cannabis industry. Through our monthly events, our members develop authentic relationships via personal contact and networking. While our events are women focused, our networking series attracts both men and women to connect. We are honored to have Oregon Representative Ann Lininger as our Keynote Speaker and music by southern Oregon's very own Alcyon Massive! There will be a silent auction, fashion show, modern dance and aerialists as well. Thanks to our sponsors: Occupy Organics, The THC Factory, The Co2 Company, Loney Law Group, and Green Leaf Lab. Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland, Oregon. \$25 Early bird price.

WOMEN IN BLACK - SILENT VIGILS FOR PEACE

Meet in Grants Pass, Cave Junction, Roseburg, Medford, and Ashland to stand silently for Peace. Contact person Ruth Torre at 541-472-5113, email is rmtorre11@gmail.com. In Ashland, every Friday from 12 - 12:30 pm on the Ashland Plaza, and the first and third Saturdays from 11 - 11:30 am on the Ashland Plaza. In Medford, every Wednesday from 12 - 12:30 pm in Vogel Plaza, corner of Main and Central. In Grants Pass, every first and third Monday from 12 - 12:30 pm next to the Post Office. In Cave Junction, every Monday from 12 - 12:30 pm at the County Building. In Roseburg, every Friday from 12 - 12:30 pm in front of the Fire Station on Garden Valley Blvd.

Film

ACTORS PLAYING THE FOOL

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18, and 25, at 2 pm. The Talent Library gives Oscar Wilde what he wishes for with some of the greatest cinema fools. Each program begins at 2 pm with an amusing and informative introduction and the film's production. May 4: The Little Tramp (Charlie Chaplin) goes prospecting and ends up eating his shoe (1925, 95 min). May 11: Danny Kaye plays a minstrel who impersonates a fool in order to restore the rightful heir to the throne (1955, 101 min). May 18: Jerry Lewis is a lovesick handyman in a women-only boarding house (1962, 95 min). May 25: Don Knotts portrays a birdwatcher who gets mistaken for a Hugh Hefner type publisher (1969, 101 min, PG-13). Admission and refreshments are free, sponsored by the Talent Library Club. Talent Branch Library, 101 Home Street.

complete beginners! This free event is sponsored by the Jacksonville Friends of the Library. Jacksonville Branch Library, 340 C Street. 541-899-1665 or jcls.org.

FOOD & MEDICINE FOREST WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 30 & Sunday, May 1, 2016. Steve Orr and Debbie Lukas invite you to join this weekend workshop in creating a Food & Medicine Forest - Plant Once, Harvest Forever! Permaculture design promotes the concept of forest gardening: growing fruits, vegetables and herbs in the understory of an orchard to create a thriving plant community with multiple yields each year. This invaluable weekend workshop immerses you in the concepts and techniques of forest gardening and herbalism with Steve and Debbie showing you how to design and plant your own. Learn how to garden in the new old way! The cost is \$150, which includes meals. Pre-registration is required. Frog Farm at 9044 Takilma



APRIL 28 & 29 - THE BROTHERS REED ARE AT IT AGAIN AT BELLA UNION RESTAURANT & SALOON, JACKSONVILLE

BIONEERS COME TO THE ROGUE VALLEY

Sundays, May 1 & 8, from 6 to 9 pm. Join us for the second annual "Bioneers Come to the Rogue Valley" film viewing series, offered on three consecutive Sundays. Come to view the best of the 2015 Bioneers conference keynote speakers and their "breakthrough solutions for restoring people and planet," plus local activists, artists and organizations. Come to be inspired, to learn, and to get involved. Thank you, Co-sponsors - Southern Oregon Pachamama Alliance Community, Bellview Grange, Ashland Conscious Dance Collective, Red Earth Descendants, Unity of Ashland, and Our Family Farms Coalition. This film series is a fundraising event for two local nonprofit organizations. RSVP much appreciated, to assist in planning. The Bellview Grange, 1050 Tolman Creek Road, Ashland. Suggest Donation \$10-\$20 each evening.

Food

ACOUSTIC AFTERNOONS

Every Sunday, from 12 - 3 pm. Acoustic Music and Organic Brunch come together to offer you a perfect, relaxing, Sweet Sunday Afternoon! Phoenix Press will be offering table service, with a special weekly brunch menu available. Our menu is always full of local, organic, carefully sourced ingredients and includes coffee from Xase, Good Bean, Noble and Stumptown roasters, teas from Dobra, and handmade smoothies, lemonade and more! The Phoenix Clubhouse, 310 N Main St., Suite H, Phoenix. Minimum \$5 order.

FERMENTED FOODS DEMO

Thursday, May 5, from 3:30 to 5 pm. Enjoy a "Fermented Foods" demonstration and talk by Kirsten Shockey, local author of "Fermented Vegetables." Fermented foods are a delicious, healthy addition to any diet, including the Paleo diet. They're full of nutritious bacteria and probiotics that aid in digestion and boost the immune system. A classic preserving method, the lacto-fermentation process yields nutrient-dense live foods packed with vitamins, minerals, enzymes, and flavor, and is easy enough for

Road in Cave Junction, Oregon. Contact Siskiyou Mountain Herbs (9044 Takilma Rd) at 541-592-3386 or email sisqdeb@gmail.com. Website: www.siskiyouherbs.com.

GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

Thursday, May 5, 5:30 pm. A wine and food pairing benefit for local charities focused on empowering women and girls. Proudly featuring seasonal vintages from the best of the Rogue Valley. Event also includes a silent auction, prizes from the "Wheel of Wine," and an Instant Wine Cellar Raffle - 2 winners will each take home 2 cases of wine selected by a local expert! Tickets are \$25 per person. For more information, contact Darcey Self at 541-840-7209 or email darcey@insmarket.com. Rogue Regency Inn & Suites, 2300 Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY DINNER

On the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month, the Phoenix Community Kitchen hosts dinner from 5 - 7 pm. Everyone is welcome, bring your neighbors and friends. First Presbyterian Church, 121 W Second St., Phoenix. For info: 541-535-1119.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

On the third Tuesday of each month, join LGBT Elders and Allies for a potluck luncheon from 11:30 am - 1 pm. Please bring your ideas for building the LGBT Community and a dish to share. A \$2 donation for drinks is suggested. Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 87 Fourth St., Ashland. Free.

PRIX FIXE VEGETARIAN DINNER

Sunday, May 1, 2016, at 6 pm. Join us in the upstairs lounge at The Haul for our last prix fixe dinner of the season! This dinner will be all vegetarian. Please note that many of these dishes can be made Vegan upon request. Menu: Mixed greens with shredded beets, housemade kimchi, and a tahini dressing / Egg and green garlic soup with radishes and parsley / Pakora breaded broccoli and cauliflower with portobello mushrooms and blue cheese / Spring vegetable pot pie / Lemon tart. \$28 per person. Please RSVP for

reservations 541-474-4991. The Haul, 121 SW H Street, Grants Pass, Oregon.

ROAM THE ROGUE 2016

Saturday, May 7, 11 am to 5 pm. Wind your way through the gorgeous Upper Rogue Wine Trail, tasting award winning wines while enjoying nibbles at each winery. The self-guided one day tour gives you access to all seven of the participating wineries and includes a commemorative wine glass, two wine tastes at each location as well as food pairings. Tickets are \$39, Designated Driver Tickets \$10. Visit RoamTheRogue.com for more information.

ROGUE VALLEY GROWERS & CRAFTERS MARKETS ASHLAND MARKET:

Tuesdays, from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, National Guard Armory, 1420 E Main St. March through November. ASHLAND SATURDAY MARKET: Saturdays, from 8:30 am - 1 pm, Oak Street in the Heart of Downtown. May through October. MEDFORD MARKET: Thursdays, from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm, Hawthorne Park, 501 E Main St. March through November. MEDFORD SATURDAY MARKET: Saturdays, from 9 am - 1 pm, The Commons (6th & Bartlett). May through October.

Kids & Family

FUN IN THE MEDFORD TEEN LIBRARY

Saturday, May 7, 1 to 3 pm. Teen Crafternoon - Make bookmarks for your mom. Sunday, May 8, 1 to 3 pm. Teen Tech Toolbox - Monthly maker series, led by members of the Rogue Hack Lab. Suggested age is 12 and older. This month: Networking with Pi's: Configure a local computer network with Raspberry Pi's. Sunday, May 15, 1 to 3 pm. Duct Tape Club - Decorate a light switch cover! Saturday, May 21, 1 to 3 pm. Board Game Mania - Get your game on! All ages. Sunday, May 22, 1 to 3 pm. Stick N Strings - Come knit, crochet, or explore other fiber crafts. Materials and instruction provided. Saturday, May 28, 1 to 3 pm. Wii Fun & Games - Explore the world of Wii. We've got lots of games available to play.

MEDFORD COMIC CON 2016

Saturday, April 30, from 10 am to 4 pm. Comic Con? For Free? At the Medford Library? YES! If you missed last year's Comic Con at the Medford Library, don't sweat it. All heroes, villains, and comic characters are invited to the second annual Medford Comic Con! Featured activities include a costume contest, art display, booths, workshops, a panel discussion, game demos, and much more. All ages are welcome, from children through teen and adult. No masks are allowed, but painted faces are okay. Fake weapons only. Please check in at the Comic Con desk in the main lobby. Food trucks will be on nearby streets! Medford Branch Library, 205 S Central Avenue. 541-774-6577.

MOTHER'S DAY EVENT AT DOWNTOWN ASHLAND BUSINESSES

Saturday, April 30, 2016, from 1:30 pm to 3 pm. Join local businesses, Paddington Station, Yogurt Hut, The Book Exchange, Unicorn Gifts & Toys, Tree House Books and Small Change Children's Store for a FREE Mother's Day event on April 30. There will be crafts and games at each location - starting at The Book Exchange with card making and wrapping it up at Small Change Children's Store. The whole family is encouraged to take part in crafting a gift and card for that special mother in your life. This continues Paddington Station's and participating local businesses long standing goal to offer a family-friendly, craft oriented event each month, as it has been doing for the past 5+ years.

MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS: EMBRACING TRANSFORMATION

Thursdays, April 7 through May 26, 3:30 - 5:30 pm. Ashland Hot Yoga presents an 8-week yoga class series for pre-adolescent girls (age 9-12) and their moms. Using the technology of Kundalini Yoga, the teachings of Yogi Bhasan, and expression through circle work and the visual and creative arts, we will explore ways to navigate the transition into puberty through a yogic perspective. We will use yogic techniques to find our sense of Self and help us remain true to our Self despite the chaos of physical and emotional change. By cultivating positive, promoting habits and fostering the mother/daughter bond, we empower ourselves and invite a successful transition that is in line with our own purpose and true sense of Self. Moms will not have to attend all sessions. To register online please go to www.ashlandhotyoga.com. Natalie: nati@natiyoga.com. Emmy: emmysan44@yahoo.com. The cost is \$270 after March 20, 2016. The location of the series is at The Haven, 1970 Ashland Street, Ashland.

EVENTS

MR. MCFUNNY'S FESTIVAL OF SPORTS JOKES AND RIDDLES

Saturday, May 7, from 1:30 to 3 pm. Ashland author Richard Seidman announces a free event to kick-start kids' laughter and learning. All children who attend and tell a sports joke or riddle will win a prize. Seidman will also share a sneak peek of some of the jokes and illustrations that will be included in his upcoming series of seven Mr. McFunny joke books. The series, aimed for six to ten year-olds, is being illustrated by Ashland cartoonist, Curt Evans, who will also be on hand at the event to demonstrate how he creates his drawings. Tree House Books, 15 North Main Street, Ashland.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE HOME SCHOOL

Thursdays, April 7 through May 26, from 1 to 4 pm, for ages 5-11. Focus is on nature connection through tracking, storytelling, survival skills and getting comfortable in the natural world. Class location alternates every other week between the Coyote Trails Nature Center, 2931 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford, and the Coyote Trails wilderness campus near Ashland. Pre-registration required. Fee: \$160. www.coyotetrails.org. Contact Lynne at 541-772-1390.

ROYAL DAY AT THE WHITE CITY LIBRARY

Saturday, May 7, from 1 to 3 pm. Hear ye, hear ye! A royal day has been decreed. All children are invited to dress up as their favorite prince or princess and crafter Royal Mother's Day cards, crowns, and wands! Light refreshments will be provided, sponsored by the White City Friends of the Library. White City Branch Library, 3143 Avenue C. Free event.

THURSDAYS AT HISTORIC HANLEY FARM

Every Thursday through October, bring a picnic and enjoy an evening at Hanley Farm. However, Third Thursdays are special!! In addition to regularly scheduled events - garden tours and self-guided tours, plus harvesting food directly from the no-till garden during June and July - activities are expanded to include: Docent-led Hanley Farmhouse Tours, Hay Rides, and Children's Garden Activities! The 'first' Third Thursday is April 21, 2016, from 4 to 7 pm. Hanley Farm, 1053 Hanley Rd., Central Point, Oregon. Free admission. Farmhouse Tours \$5 for non-members / \$3 SOHS members. Information: 913-638-6954, or email hanleyagriculture@sohs.org.

TODDLEROBICS: MOVEMENT, MUSIC, & ME!

Every Tuesday beginning in January, from 11 - 11:30 am. Come exercise your mind, body, and spirit! Young children live to move, but the weather in Oregon often limits opportunities for outside play and exercise. Children ages 2 and older can exercise both mind and body by participating in a range of simple exercises such as the crab walk, bear crawl, jumping jacks, and many others. Attendees will also participate in music games so children can sing and dance to songs. Central Point Branch Library, 116 S. Third St. Free admission.

Meetings

BINGO

Third Sunday of every month, from 4 to 7 pm. \$1 per game. Game proceeds are split evenly between winning players and the house. Snacks and beverages are available. Information: 541-846-7501. Applegate Valley Community Grange, 3901 Upper Applegate Road, 4 miles south of Ruch, Oregon.

BOOK CLUBS

BOOKS@4: Third Tuesdays monthly, from 4 - 5 pm. April 19, May 17, June 21 & July 19. Adams Meeting Room at the Medford Branch Library, 205 S Central Ave.

BRAIN BOOKS: Fourth Tuesday monthly, from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Guanajuato Room of the Ashland Branch Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd.

MYSTERY READERS ROUNDTABLE: Third Tuesdays monthly, from 2 - 3 pm. Meyer Memorial Trust Community Meeting Room, Phoenix Branch Library, 510 W First St.

CHESS CLUB

Grants Pass Chess is an informal group of local chess players and those wanting to learn more about the game. Every level is welcome! Meets every Saturday, from 4 to 7 pm at Rogue Roasters, 610 SW K St., Grants Pass. Free.

GREEN DRINKS

Rogue Valley Green Drinks fosters connections and raises awareness toward a more vibrant and sustainable Southern Oregon. Green Drinks is a prime networking arena for those looking for information and connections related to environmental and sustainability issues. A venue for both networking and education, each event features a presentation meant

to provide information and time afterwards for further discussion. www.ashlandgreendrinks.com

NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION PRACTICE GROUP

Tuesdays, from 4:15 - 5:45 pm. Anyone who has had a NonViolent Communication course and wants to practice is welcome. Bring your book, NonViolent Communication by Marshall B Rosenberg, Ph.D. and drop-in, or come regularly. Gift exchanges welcome. With questions or for more info, contact Joanna Niemann at joannawn@yahoo.com. Every Tuesday at the Ashland Public Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd.

RECORDER GROUP OF TALENT

Tuesdays, from 12 Noon to 1 pm. Come join us! The all-ages, all-skills Recorder Group of Talent will be getting together to play music and have fun on Tuesdays. This will be an informal gathering of musicians with varied experience on this deceptively simply woodwind instrument. If you have a recorder please bring it along and join in. If you just want to show up and listen you are also welcome! For more information, please call the Talent Library at 541-535-4163. Talent Branch Library, 101 Home St. Free.

SCRABBLE CLUB

Are you a logophile (a lover of words) who knows that playing that word in Scrabble could score a minimum



APRIL 28 - HEALTHY WATERS WALK & SOCIAL HOUR IN DOWNTOWN ASHLAND

of 15 points? If you answered "yes," then you should join in a casual game (or two) of Scrabble on Saturdays from 12 Noon - 4 pm at the Talent Branch Library, 101 Home St. Free admission. A Scrabble group also meets in Grants Pass every Wednesday at 1 pm at Home Sweet Home, 1038 6th Street. Free.

TALK STORY AT THE APPLGATE LIBRARY

Saturday, May 14, 7 pm. Every Second Saturday of the month, join us for Talk Story with David Kennedy. Talk Story, known in Hawaii as mo'olelo, is a respected tradition in many cultures where the personal sharing of important stories preserves them for future generations. Sit with other members of your community and share stories from your life. You may come and listen or let your voice be heard. Bring the kids, the grandparents, or anyone in between! Sponsored by Friends of the Applegate Library, located at 18485 North Applegate Road, Applegate, Oregon. Free event. Related: Next issue, watch for The Importance of Story, where author Tod Davies will discuss the timeless art of story, why humans need it, and its impacts on our culture. That event is on May 12, 2016 in the Meese Room on the Hannon Library at SOU.

TRANSPARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Second Tuesday of each month, from 6 pm to 7:30 pm in Ashland. We are parents, family members and allies of gender creative youth. TransParent Support Group offers a safe and positive place to talk, share, discover, learn and support each other. If you are a supportive ally of a child or youth who doesn't fit into current gender binary norms, come and exchange wisdom and experiences. You are not alone. There is a wealth of support, information and safety for your amazing child! Contact Emily Waymire at (Info@MovementsOfTheSoul.org). You will receive a short email with some questions to ensure that this is a good fit for your needs.

TRANS TALK

Mondays at the QRC. For more information, please contact qrc@sou.edu. Stevenson Union, Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland.

VETERANS FOR PEACE

First Wednesdays, 6:30 pm. The Rogue Valley Veterans for Peace Chapter 156 meets on the first Wednesday of each month at a rotating location. For further information or to arrange transportation to the meeting, call Jim Woods in Grants Pass at 541-956-5287, or Ivend Holen in Medford at 541-779-5392.

Presentations

NEW HIKES ON THE OREGON COAST

Thursday, May 5, from 7 to 9 pm. Oregon's hiking guru, William L. Sullivan, takes us on a slide show tour of a dozen new trails he discovered while researching his new fourth edition of his book, "100 Hikes/Travel Guide: Oregon Coast & Coast Range" at the Headwaters/GEOS Building, 84 Fourth Street, Ashland. Discover a loop hike around Depoe Bay, an abandoned railroad along a river near Tillamook, and a trek to the world's tallest redwoods just over the border in California. As always, Sullivan spices his talk with notes on the geology, wildlife, and history of the land. There is no charge for this event but seating is limited.

STORIES & SONGS FROM GOLD RUSH SALOONS

Sunday, May 8, at both 2 pm and 3:30 pm. When gold was discovered in Oregon in the mid-1800s,

gamblers, courtesans, and con men of every kind flocked to the new "El Dorado." Saloons, gambling and music lured honest miners "...into many a dangerous place, where he and his money were soon parted." Join David Gordon, "northwest troubadour," as he brings the Gold Rush Saloons to life through original songs and the stories behind them at the Naversen Room on the Jacksonville Branch Library, 340 West C Street. The 2 pm show on May 8 is sold out already! For reservations for the 3:30 performance, and information, call 541-245-3650 or email info@historicjacksonville.org. Admission is \$3.

STRUCTURED TO FAIL

Thursday, May 5, 7 pm. William McPhee, author of the Novel, Structured to Fail: Implosion of the Global Economy. Structured to Fail is a fact-based novel that examines the Eurodollar, Hedge Funds, and subprime financial disasters that led to the evaporation of \$23 trillion (That's billion, but with a T) in global wealth between 2006 and 2014, far exceeding the losses of the Great Depression. The subprime fiasco alone tanked the U.S. housing market, stock market and ultimately the global economy. Many believe that these dramatic events resulted from a banking conspiracy. In fact, it was a conspiracy of ignorance, stupidity, greed, and hubris at the highest levels of banks and governments. Structured to Fail is both a primer on financial management and a treasure trove of case studies for how investment banking should and should not be managed. Bloomsbury Books, 290 East Main Street, Ashland. Free and open to the public.

THE EARTH WANTS YOU

Thursday, April 28, 7 pm. "Performance artist and eco/anti-consumerism activist The Reverend Billy presents The Earth Wants YOU, a motivational handbook, meant to inspire its readers to challenge the consumerism, racism and militarism that are killing our planet. With a Heady mix of humor, insightful critique, passionate commitment, and emotional catharsis, Reverend Billy provides example after example of creative, joyful, Earth-inspired direct action. Earth-a-lujah!" This will be Reverend Billy's only event in Ashland. Bloomsbury Books, 290 East Main Street, Ashland. Free and open to the public.

THE FIFTH SISTER

Monday, May 2, 7 pm. Laura Landgraf, author of The Fifth Sister: From Victim to Victor - Overcoming Child Abuse. Laura's memoir, The Fifth Sister, is all about children - her five sisters and Laura's own children. The book spans two continents and three decades. Laura's father - who impregnated her oldest sister - avoided consequences in the United States by moving to Africa. When her children were threatened, Laura went undercover to find her father's latest victim. Armed with that and her sister's deposition, she proved a 30 year history of child sexual abuse. Readers who have experienced sexual or physical abuse will find their anguish validated by The Fifth Sister. Those who have not faced this trauma will gain a deep understanding of dysfunctional families with much to hide. Ultimately, however, The Fifth Sister is a story of hope. Bloomsbury Books, 290 East Main Street, Ashland. Free and open to the public.

THE OIL CONSPIRACY

Monday, May 9, 7 pm. W.R. Hill, author of the Novel, The Oil Conspiracy. Pacific Northwest author W.R. Hill will be talking about his 50 year journey from flunking out of college to publishing his first thriller, The Oil Conspiracy. This fast paced novel is set in Houston, Vienna, and Washington D.C. where murder and mayhem reign at the highest levels of big oil and politics. Bloomsbury Books, 290 East Main Street, Ashland. Free and open to the public.

Sports & Outdoor

ASHLAND POND BIRD WALK

Sunday, May 8, 9 am. Join Northwest Nature Shop employee and expert birder Terence Philippe for an exploration of Ashland Pond. Waterfowl, raptors, a seasonal variety of songbirds and possible river otter sightings will round out the morning. Expect about 2 miles of walking on gentle paths. Pre-registration required. NorthwestNatureShop.com. 541-482-3241. Meet at the Northwest Nature Shop at 9 am, 154 Oak Street, Ashland, Oregon. Watch for Spring Guided Wild Mushroom Hikes next issue!

ECOLOGICAL MONITORING TRAINING

Saturday, May 7, 9 am to 2 pm. Join Jeanine Moy for Ecological Monitoring Training. What is happening in the most botanically special places of the Klamath-Siskiyou? What might the effects of a rapidly changing climate be on local plant communities? How has our changing relationship with the landscape impacted the types of vegetation we see today, and in the future? We need your help to answer these questions. By working together, we will gather information about how our habitat is changing over time and be more prepared to address future concerns for our landscape. This training will provide basic skills to read the forested landscape, identify common plants, rare species and invasive species. Join us for a hands-on training event, open to all - no background necessary! Seasoned and new Botanical Area volunteers are encouraged to attend. Meet at the KS Wild office (993 Siskiyou Blvd #1, Ashland, OR), with field trip to Oredson Todd - dress appropriately for rain or shine. Lunch provided, bring water and snacks. Contact Jeanine Moy at 541-488-5789.

GROUP MOUNTAIN BIKING

Cycle Analysis hosts a two hour Mountain Bike ride on the Britt Trails in Jacksonville or John's Peak, which has 200 miles of trail. Come enjoy good food, friends, and a great ride. Everyone is welcome. Helmets mandatory at all times, lights in the winter. Wednesday nights at 6 pm. Cycle Analysis, 535 N Fifth St., Jacksonville, Oregon. Free.

EVENTS

GUIDED TABLE ROCK HIKES

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Bureau of Land Management, Medford District (BLM) are sponsoring free guided hikes at the Table Rocks. Anyone is welcome to sign up reservations are required (unless noted). Space is limited to 20 individuals unless otherwise indicated. Register at TableRockHikes2016.eventbrite.com or call the BLM Medford District at 541-618-2200, M-F, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Hikes are 3-5 miles round-trip along a moderate grade trail and generally last 3-5 hours. Dress for the weather and bring drinking water (none available at site) and a lunch or a snack. Restrooms available at trailhead. No dogs, mountain bikes or OHVs are allowed on the trail. Read on for the next two hikes at Table Rocks.

NATURE ON THE ROCKS

Saturday, April 30, 10 am - 2 pm. Lower Table Rock - Nature on the Rocks - Celebrating 30 years of environmental education! Join us for a fun-filled day of activities, hikes and interactive displays suitable for the whole family. Help us celebrate 30 years of successful community engagement and education on the Table Rocks. Public event - Open to All! Parking is limited so please consider carpooling. Additional parking is available to Sams Valley Elementary School and a shuttle will be provided to and from the Lower Table Rock throughout the day. NO registration required for this event!

TRIBAL HISTORY AND CULTURE

Sunday, May 1, 2016, 9 am. Lower Table Rock - Tribal History and Culture. Robert Kentta, Cultural Resources Director, member and elected official of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians will discuss the history and culture of ancestral tribes who were moved from the Rogue Valley and other parts of Western Oregon to the Siletz Reservation. Register online at TribalCultureAndHistory.eventbrite.com.

HEALTHY WATERS WALK & HAPPY HOUR

Thursday, April 28, 5 to 7 pm. Join us for a walking tour of downtown Ashland, followed by a social hour at Standing Stone Brewery. Meet at the Lithia Drinking Fountain on the Plaza, North Main Street in downtown Ashland. Rogue Riverkeeper staff will lead a walking tour through Ashland to talk about how water moves through town, how design can protect our streams, and what happens during extreme storm events. To RSVP or info, contact Frances at frances@rogueriverkeeper.org or call 541-488-9831.

KELSEY CREEK TRAIL

Sunday, May 1, from 10 am to 6 pm. Follow Conservation Director George Sexton into the unforgettable Scott River Tributary of the Marble Mountains Wilderness in northern California. Carpool leaves from Ashland's Shop 'N Kart (2268 Ashland Street). Contact Jeanine Moy at 541-488-5789 or email jeanine@kswild.org.

SISKIYOU CHALLENGE

Saturday, April 30, 7:30 am. The Siskiyou Challenge is open to recreational and competitive racers. The event is a 6-leg multi-sport relay race that raises funds for Rogue Valley Farm to School. The race course is 46 miles in and around beautiful Ashland, Oregon. ALL racers are expected at the PRE-RACE MEETING, 7:30 at ScienceWorks. Festivities begin Friday afternoon with a BBQ at Emigrant Lake at 5 pm. At the BBQ, you may drop off kayaks and gear to be ready for the morning. Don't forget the 2016 Siskiyou Challenge Fun Run! Everyone is welcome - slow as a snail or as quick as a ground squirrel - follow the life cycle of a seed on this 1-mile sidewalk course, with optional farm fitness challenges along the way. Registration for Fun Run begins at 9 am, the timed race begins at 10 am. Also check out the Siskiyou Challenge Farm Fest - a family friendly activity fair that will expose Siskiyou Challenge participants and community members to Rogue Valley Farm to School's mission through fun, hands-on activities. The Siskiyou Challenge begins and ends at ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum, 1500 East Main Street (near Walker Ave), Ashland, Oregon. www.siskiyouchallenge.org or 541-579-3656.

TOUGH AS NAILS 5K / 10M

Saturday, May 7, 9:30 am. Join us for a ten mile or 5K mountain loop course up, down, around and through the roots and rambles on Roxy Ann Peak in Medford, followed by a party on Roxy Ann. Start time: 9:30 am for the 10 mile. 10 am for the 5K. Race start is at Prescott Park, 3030 Roxy Ann Rd., Medford. Facebook.com/toughasnailsmedford

TREE & SHRUB IDENTIFICATION TRAINING

Thursday, May 5, from 4:30 pm to 7 pm. Join ABA (Adopt-a-Botanical-Area) Coordinator Jeanine Moy, and Native Plant Society of Oregon, Siskiyou Chapter President Kristi Mergenthaler for a low elevation woody shrub and tree identification walk at

the Wagner Creek Loop. Carpool leaves from Ray's Market (215 East Wagner Street) in Talent, Oregon at 4:30 pm.

Stage

A NIGHT TO DIE FOR

Saturday, April 30, Doors at 6:30 pm, Show begins at 7 pm. One Eleven Theatre Company and The Suites Assisted Living present: "A Night to Die For," A Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. Red Carpet Tickets: \$50/Pair includes dinner for two, bar service, costume contest (1920's theme), auction entry, and show. VIP Entry: \$60/Pair includes all that, plus your own private booth. Dinner includes steak and lobster tail with great sides, red and white wine, and dessert



APRIL 29 - DEBUT ALBUM RELEASE PARTY WITH HOLLIS PEACH AT LA BAGUETTE MUSIC CAFE, ASHLAND

buffet! The Elks Lodge, 207 Southwest K Street, Grants Pass, Oregon. Tickets: 541-955-9115.

INHERIT THE WIND

April 27 through May 29, 2016. By Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee. While this Tony Award winning play debuted in 1955, its story is as relevant today as it was then. One of the most outstanding dramas of our time, Inherit the Wind is a fictionalized account of the 1925 Scopes "Monkey" Trial. The controversial subject of evolution versus creation causes two polar opposites to engage in one explosive battle of beliefs. Attorney Henry Drummond faces off against fundamentalist leader Matthew Harrison Brady in a small Tennessee town where trial for teacher Bertram Cates has been brought to trial for teaching Darwinism. Says Lawrence, "We used the teaching of evolution as a parable, a metaphor for any kind of mind control. It's not about science versus religion. It's about the right to think." Camelot Theatre, 101 Talent Ave., Talent, Oregon, United States of America, Earth.

OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL - 15

South Pioneer Street in Ashland, Oregon. Box Office: 541-482-4331. www.osfashland.org. Backstage Tours: "The Show Behind the Show" - through October 29, 2016. Discover what's behind the shows with a walking tour and brief history of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Tour begins at Thomas Theatre. Dress accordingly for some outdoor spaces. Tour Prices: \$20 General Admission, \$14 Youth (6-17). Watch for Festival Noons at Carpenter Hall, 44 S Pioneer St. in downtown Ashland. These are noon-time lectures, discussions, demonstrations and workshops led by OSF actors and directors, scholars and theatre artists from around the country! Festival Noon Tickets: \$12, \$10 Members, \$8 Youth. Festival Noons: Preface Plus: Vietgone - Saturday, April 30, 12 pm - Carpenter Hall. Festival Noons: Preface Plus: Great Expectations - Saturday, May 7, 12 pm - Carpenter Hall. PHIL KILLIAN READING - May 11, 2016 - 10 am - Tickets \$12, \$10 Members, \$8 Youth. GREAT EXPECTATIONS: Feb 20 - Oct 30, 2016 - Angus Bowmer Theatre. HAMLET: June 7 - Oct 14 - Allen Elizabethan Theatre. RICHARD II: July 5 - Oct 30 - Thomas Theatre. ROE: Apr 20 - Oct 29 - Angus Bowmer Theatre THE RIVER BRIDE: Feb 21 - July 7 - Angus Bowmer Theatre. THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD: Feb 24 - Oct 30 - Thomas Theatre. THE WINTER'S TALE: June 9 - Oct 16 - Allen Elizabethan Theatre. THE WIZ: June 8 - Oct 15 - Allen Elizabethan Theatre. TIMON OF ATHENS: July 28 - Oct 29 - Angus Bowmer Theatre. TWELFTH NIGHT: Feb 19 - Oct 30 - Angus Bowmer Theatre. VIETGONE: Mar 30 - Oct 30 - Thomas Theatre.

SPRING VISIONS: A SALON CELEBRATION WITH DANCING PEOPLE COMPANY

April 29 - May 2. Take in tender and compelling dance, celebrating the legacy of Robin Stiehm. Featuring Robin Stiehm's masterworks "Aspects of the Heart" and "Up." Also premiering powerful new work by Erin Drummond (Guest Artistic Director) and Walter Kennedy (U of O Dance). Rehearsal Director: Lou Fancher. Tickets are \$15. Performances are Fri, April 29 at 8 pm, Sat, April 30 at 8 pm. "Pay-What-You-Can" Matinee on Sun, May 1 at 2 pm. Mon, May 2 at 8 pm. Dancing People Company Studio, 310 Oak Street, Ashland.

of martial artists. Our classes focus on Single Stick, Double Stick, Eskrido, Sword & Dagger, Kickboxing, Paddled Stick Sparring, Flexibility & Relaxation. \$15 Drop-in or \$12 with 10 class punch card. Private lessons available. 920-286-2759. Ashland Karate Academy, 644 Tolman Creek Rd. in Ashland.

GUIDED MEDITATION FOR BEGINNERS

1st Sunday of every month. Sessions led by Lama Chonam & Sangye Khandro. The monthly guided meditations involve instruction on the nine-round breathing purification, how to sit in the correct posture, and how to meditate. An outline explaining the nine stages of Shamatha meditation, Vipassana techniques, and resting in the mind's nature (rigpa) will be provided. There will also be time for questions and answers. This event is free of charge. Donations to the center or teachers are always welcome. Tashi Choling Center for Buddhist Studies, 2001 Colestin Rd., Ashland.

HEALING THROUGH PLEASURE

Saturday, April 30, from 1 to 6 pm. Join sex and intimacy coach Kim Keller and yoga teacher Natalie Stawsky to enhance connection to your sacred Yoni and Divine Feminine Essence, in a container or sacred sisterhood! Utilizing the egg-shaped stone as a tool for healing and deepening your self-care, experience heart expansion, increase your pleasure and explore seep presence. This practice supports vaginal health, helps heal sexual trauma, supports recovery and preparation for childbirth, and increases pleasure potential. Jade Egg supports emotional wellness, vitality and juicy creativity. Each woman uses her own Jade Egg (or other yoni stone) throughout the day to support and create her personalized practice. This introductory gathering will conversational only. \$70. Ashland Hot Yoga, 2455 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland.

KABBALAH MEDITATION

Thursdays, May 5, 19 & 26, from 5 to 6 pm. Rabbi David Zaslow presents a 16th century method of meditation created by Rabbi Issac Luria in the city of Tsfat in Israel. Based on the 10 s'firot (chakras), the body's energy centers, participants will learn to calm their emotions, leading to more balanced daily lives. Learn to draw down archangels such as Michael and Gabriel, increase balance in your flow of energy, increase joy, and attend to the needs of the soul, plus more! In addition, this practice sharpens memory and increases intellectual flexibility. \$72 for non-members, \$36 for members for five sessions, includes all handouts. \$18 for participants who've taken the class before. www.havurahshirhadash.org or call 541-488-7716. The Havurah Synagogue, 185 North Mountain Avenue, Ashland.

KUNDALINI YOGA AND MEDITATION

Mondays, 5 - 6:30 pm. Join Lindsey Roby for a unique, stress-relieving experience. For everyone. All levels welcome. The Haven, 1970 Ashland St., Ashland. \$10.

OUTDOOR MOVEMENT CLASS

Thursdays, 9 am - With Alissa Rae Hill, rain or shine. Awareness meets movement. Find your balance between relaxation and stress. Small group. Deep journey. Real practice. Heart conditioning, functional anatomy, whole body dynamic strengthening and stretching, beautiful fresh air and scenery! Space is limited, registration strongly suggested. Location may change weekly. Please visit www.alissarae.com or call 541-292-4998 for location.

RADHAKRISHNA HOLISTIC YOGA

Ashland Karate Academy, 644 Tolman Creek Rd., Ashland 920-286-2759 (limited class sizes). Saturdays & Sundays at Noon (Gentle), 1:30 pm (Intermediate), & 3 pm (for Yoga teachers). Classical Raja Yoga from Sivananda Yoga Vendanta Ashrams International, now in Ashland. OM Shanti!

RENEW: A ONE DAY YOGA & TRANSFORMATIONAL RETREAT

Sunday, May 1, 2016, from 9 am to 3 pm. As the earth springs back to light and fullness, so shall we. Join us as we renew our energy and restore our balance through morning and late afternoon yoga, transformational workshops, gourmet food, and local wine. \$116. Includes gourmet lunch and a glass of wine. Learn more and register online at www.evolutionary-consulting.com or email tiffany@evolutionary-consulting.com or call 541-778-1354. Register with one or more friends and save 15% each. Use Coupon Code: RenewUs. DANCIN Vineyards, 4477 South Stage Rd., Jacksonville, Oregon.

THE CEMETERY CLUB

April 22 through May 8, 2016. The Cemetery Club, by Ivan Menchell, is a funny, sweet tempered and moving play that follows three Queens, NY widows who meet each month at the graves of their deceased husbands. It is a story about love, tears and lots of humor! Tickets: Barnstormersgp.org or call 541-479-3557, ext. 2. Regular Admission \$15. Groups of 10 or more are \$12 each (single payment only) Barnstormers Theatre, 112 Northeast Evelyn Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon.

Wellness

ACROYOGA AT ROGUE ROCK GYM

Fridays, from 10:30 am - 12 pm. A playful and invigorating partner acrobatics class is the best way to start your day and weekend! Join Liz and Emily, experienced acroyogis who love sharing this practice and building the acro community. Make friends, build strength and learn a fun and dynamic movement practice built on trust, communication, and creativity! \$10 drop-in rate. Rogue Rock Gym, 3001 Samike Drive in Medford.

ACRO YOGA

Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9 pm. Acro Yoga, with Jamie Cooper and Jacob Wood, is a form of partner work that combines yoga and acrobatics. In each class you will learn the foundational work and basic poses for a fun and safe experience. No previous acro experience is required. Come alone or bring a friend, and be ready to have fun and challenge yourself. Rasa provides thick gymnastic mats for safety. Drop-in price: \$12. Rasa Yoga, 217 4th Street in Ashland.

EARTHY MIRTH WITH MICHELLE KEIP

Unleash your playful body, Unwind your open mind, Uncover your happy heart. Come delight in the yin-yang interplay of form and flow. With Earthy Mirth, joyful practices guide our attention as we follow what is coming to life in our movement, the group body, the space and the moment. Central to Somatics practice, we cultivate curiosity while concentrating on bodily sensation. As we stay with our felt experience, the gifts of spontaneous insight arise. We expand our explorations with sound, art, sharing and dedication to the benefit of all. Starts April 4, Mondays 10-11 am, on-going, drop-in, sliding scale donation \$5-\$20 at Merging Rivers Zen Center, 243 "J" St., Grants Pass. Also Tuesdays, April 19 & 26, 11am-Noon, \$5, Intro. Classes at the Williams Grange, 20100 Williams Hwy. Contact Michelle Keip at 541-244-1885 or michelle@wellspringai.com.

FILIPINO MARTIAL ARTS

Fridays, 3:30 - 5 pm: Intro to Eskrima-Kali-Arnis. 5 - 6:30 pm: Yellow Belt & above in E-K-A. You will learn many techniques, forms, drills and concepts from our curriculum in a safe, encouraging community

What is a Shakespearean pun?
A play on words! -Jordy
There's more happening at
RogueValleyMessenger.com/Events.

SOUND

Rockers with a Cause

Q&A with Reason to Rebel

BY JOSH GROSS



WHAT DO YOU MEAN SKINNY TIES ARE OUT? SOUNDS LIKE A REASON TO REBEL!
PHOTO BY GARY KASL

San Diego rockers, Reason to Rebel, have been around the block a few times in the last decade, executing multiple tours and including guest performances from A-listers like Ikey Owens of the Mars Volta and Bret Hinds of Mastodon on their albums. One place they haven't yet been is Southern Oregon. That will change on Sat., April 30 when the band plays The Haul in Grants Pass.

The Messenger caught up with Luke Chandler, the band's vocalist, for some background.

Rogue Valley Messenger: How did you meet/did the band get together?

Luke Chandler: Reason has been together over 11 years now. When the four of us first got together (Evan, Sam, Daniel, and I), we were all either in college, or fresh out of high school, and each seeking an outlet for our musical eccentricities. We'd all been in other projects, but something clicked when we jammed together that first time.

RVM: What does your name mean? What does it say about your sound?

LC: For me, Reason to Rebel has always been about using your mind, your thirst for knowledge, to break through whatever barriers have been put before you. It's about questioning what's really the truth, and how we can be a better society. The name has set the tone for us in terms of subject matter lyrically, but also with regards to what we do musically. Our sound has evolved over the years, because that's what happens when you're constantly testing boundaries.

RVM: Similarly, speak to the name of the current tour/album: "This Gun is Human." What's the interpretation?

LC: "This Gun is Human" speaks to what the human race is to our planet and our surroundings. We're the best at destroying things. Always have been. But maybe it's time to find something else we're good at.

RVM: Rock is a pretty varied genre, and there's a lot of variety in your sound. What are your primary influences?

LC: Variety is essential for us. We get bored easily, so we've drawn a little bit of something from almost every type of music. We like Hip Hop & metal. Jazz & punk. Funk & Blues. I like to dance and bang my head, sometimes at the same time.

RVM: The music world has kind of shifted away from rock and towards electronic. Where do you feel your music fits in?

RTR: Maybe our music doesn't fit in. I can't control that. We've never really fit into any particular scene. What I can control is the songwriting, and I take that very seriously. We play guitars and drums because we like guitars and drums. They still sound good together, no matter how many new sounds or instruments are invented on a daily basis.



REASON TO REBEL

9 pm Sat., April 30

The Haul, 121 SW H St., Grants Pass

FREE

Rogue Sounds

T-Poe's 'Simply am a Sayer' is Clean, Simple and Solid

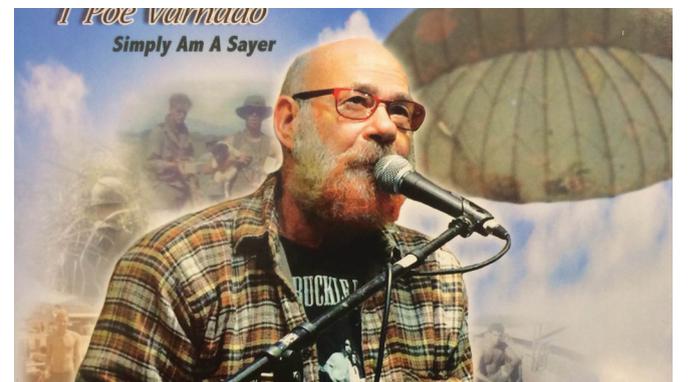
BY JOSH GROSS

In a smaller market like the Rogue Valley, there are some fingers that seem to be in every pie: the property management company that controls every building, the entrepreneur that owns every business, and the performers and artists involved in every happening.

T Poe Varnado is such a performer. The Ashland poet hosts multiple live poetry events, has been a featured performer at OSF, and can be found lurking in the live performances and music videos of many a local band. About the only place you couldn't find him was on tape. Until recently that is.

T Poe recently released his first album of poetry, "*Simply am a Sayer*," featuring original spoken-word performances over music beds courtesy of another omnipresent local act, The Brothers Reed.

The collection has 24 tracks covering a variety of topics about modern life. But T Poe returns frequently to his experiences in the Vietnam War, discussing life on a patrol boat, life stateside, and what it was like to see friends die. Some are terrifyingly earnest, like when T Poe says, "yeah, I'm a little bit racist," or extolls his addictions in verse. He cracks a few jokes at the expense of the T.S.A., warning them not to "touch my junk," in the poem of the same name. Some work to impart learned wisdom, like "The Bold Solution," which offers revolution advice to the kids based on living through the '60s.



Poetry is to taste—both the poems themselves, and the medium at large. But in this critic's opinion, it works better spoken than written down, as the performance serves to clarify the emotional intent of what are often muddled texts. That indie poetry albums are now becoming as much of a thing as chapbooks is a great step forward. And when they come with high production value like, "*Simply am a Sayer*," it makes the medium that much richer.

And also in this critic's opinion, T Poe is a poet whose work shines a bit brighter on tape than live. The delivery is slow and delicate, with T Poe's gravelly baritone humming like the rumble of a passing train. In a live environment full of lights and sounds and bar chatter, it can sometimes fall flat. On tape where the sonic environment is controlled and focused, it is soothing and engaging, especially with the light touches of piano and guitar from The Brothers Reed. The music tracks take great care not to be showy so the words can stay in the forefront. As a poetry album, it's a solid entry in the local canon.

But as mentioned, it's not for everyone, a value-judgment that likely goes hand in hand with one's feelings on poetry in general. But if that's your jam, "*Simply am a Sayer*," is worth a listen.

"*Simply am a Sayer*," is only available in hard copies at T Poe's live performances, including the monthly Rogue Poetry Slam held at Caldera Tap House and the spoken word open mic at Milagro's in Ashland.



SOUND

Hometown Honky-Tonking

The BasinBillies Return to Their Old Stomping Grounds

BY TYRELL TRIMBLE



THAT'S THE BASINWILLIAMS TO YOU, BUB. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BASINBILLIES.

With folk in the midst of a full force revival, more bands are abandoning high octane rock and roll and picking up where banjo legend Earl Scruggs left off. Rose City cow-punks The Basinbillies are one of many pioneering this trend, infusing classic bluegrass with punk rock attitude. And having grown up in southern Oregon, the band looks forward to returning to their old stomping grounds and raising hell Fri., May 13, at Oberon's in Ashland.

The Basinbillies differentiate themselves from other jug bands by writing aggressive tunes informed by the rock influences of their childhood.

"Back in high school we probably would have all considered ourselves alternative kids," says guitarist and vocalist Corry Christensen. "We all grew up on that early '90s punk scene. Several members of the band played in punk bands right out of high school. Once we all got together when we were a bit older and really enjoyed that folk, bluegrass style of music it just seemed like a natural thing combining these genre to give us an edge and touch on topics not normally rooted in bluegrass."

While the Basinbillies borrow from the conventions of early Americana, the resulting sound is a far cry from the soft banjo accompanied croonings of the 1920s.

"That's sort of what thrash-grass is," says Christensen. "Andrew and I on the guitar really aren't finesse players. We tend to hack our way through a song. We don't strive to be finesse players or fit into that new-grass jam band style, we really try to lean to the opposite side of the spectrum. That goes back to the punk feeling. We want people to stomp their feet and whoop and ha."

Since their inception in 2010, The Basinbillies have been making waves. Hot off a win at the Spirit Mountain Country Ruckus Competition, the band recorded their first full-length album *Whiskey on Work Night*.

"We were very fortunate the first go-around to have Sunny and Jim Filburg, who are long time artist and sound engineers working the Seattle area for bands like Pearl Jam and were right there in that grunge movement," says Christensen. "They brought us in and produced our album for us pretty much pro bono."

Though the band is now headquartered in Portland, the Basinbillies are no strangers to southern Oregon. They grew up in Klamath Falls. The band has always received a warm reception in Klamath is set to play a sold-out show at the Ross Ragland cultural center Thursday, May 12th.

"When we play Klamath we still have a lot of friends and family down there," says Christensen. "It's good to go down and reconnect with people we haven't seen in a long time, play music and make people feel good." 

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8 pm, Fri., May 13
Oberon's, 45 N Main St, Ashland.
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THE TACO OF THE TOWN

FOOD & Drink

The Craft of Cooking, and the Art of Eating A Look at Three of Ashland's Most Inspiring Food Artists

BY ELISE HERRON

Life itself is a binge, as Julia Child once said, and beautiful food is a unique joy of living. Inspired chefs are artists in their industry—using fresh ingredients, complex flavors, and complementary color and texture combinations to make masterpieces.

“New, fresh ingredients are my paint and canvas,” says one of Ashland’s finest food artists, Billy Buscher, of Alchemy. I asked Buscher, and mixologist Jen Akin, of Alchemy, Erik Brown of Amuse, and Chandra Corwin of Cucina Biazzi to show off their innovative artistry last week. The plates they created expressed both the food’s freshness and chef’s craftiness. And, for anyone who loves food as much as I do, there’s nothing more happy-dance ensuing than seeing it so artfully displayed.

I first met Buscher at Alchemy, and his was a dazzling presentation to follow—a plate of: day boat (never frozen) scallops and crispy braised pork jaw atop duck fat roasted shallot and fava bean puree, with a sous vide egg yolk drizzle and side of pickled heirloom carrots and snap peas. It was a bright display of fresh, earthy colors that matched the springtime vibrancy outside.

Buscher’s philosophy on the presentation of his food is, “Number one, [it] has to be delicious...it should taste just as good as it looks.”

And it did, it definitely did—flavorful but not overpowering, super fresh, and expertly cooked. There was no doubt of the artistry behind Buscher’s cooking, and his presentation only complemented the food, and his abilities.

Alchemy’s bartender, Akin, holds many awards for her art—top four Heaven Hill Bartender of the Year, top five Portland’s Northwest Tequila Festival, and Bombay Safire’s Most Imaginative Bartender, to name a few. Befitting the name Alchemy, Akin creates her own bitters and tinctures, to blend with the stock of obscure and delicious liquors she’s curated at the bar.

Turmeric, sprigs of fresh thyme, cardamom, celery bitters, and chive oil were some of the mysteriously magic ingredients in her drinks.

“Picking a favorite drink is like picking a favorite child,” Akin said. “I take what I like, what’s seasonal and fresh, and make drinks that are accessible and friendly—while still being unique,” she added.

In Alchemy’s newly built kitchen and bar, the two are excited to continue growing, and innovating their artistic food and drinks.

Erik Brown was the next chef I met at the French inspired Amuse Restaurant. Brown’s food philosophy is simple, “I take a few fresh ingredients and give them a refined twist.” He believes in presentations that “let the food speak for itself.” In a style of understated elegance, Brown prepared a couple small plates: one of prawns and fingerling potatoes over spicy orange romesco sauce, another of rich sweetbreads, and a beautifully presented array of scallops over English pea puree, with a sofrito oil drizzle, and pancetta and roasted carrot on the side. The plates were simple and asked for slow savoring. A touch of gracefulness was apparent in the delicate spreads of sauces, and light drizzles of oil.

“The artistic part of food really is in the plating,” affirms chef Chandra Corwin of Cucina Biazzi, adding, “I love the process from beginning to end.” She believes in,



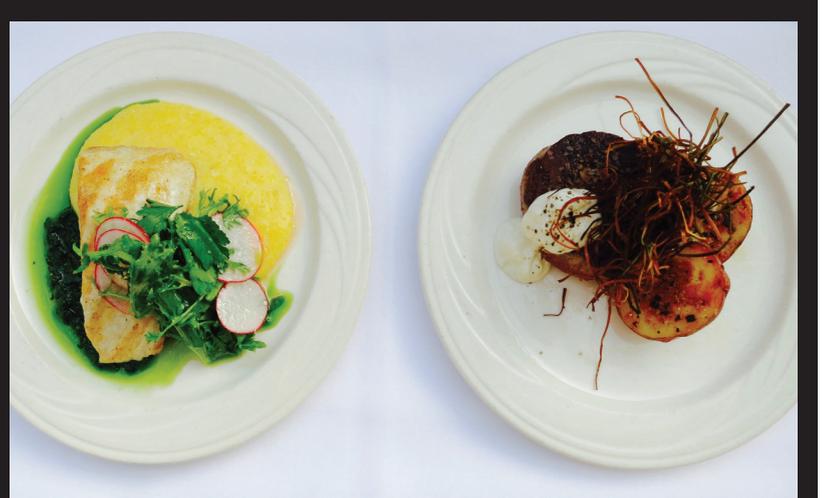
(LEFT PHOTO) CHEF BILLY BUSCHER AND BARTENDER JEN AKIN OF ALCHEMY. (RIGHT PHOTO) BILLY’S SWEET SPRING SCALLOPS AND JEN’S MAGIC MIXED DRINKS



(RIGHT PHOTO) SCALLOP, PANCETTA, PEAS--ERIK’S REFINED ARTISTIC FLAIR. (LEFT PHOTO) CHEF ERIK BROWN OF AMUSE.



(LEFT PHOTO) CHEF CHANDRA CORWIN OF CUCINA BIAZZI. (RIGHT PHOTO) SCALLOP, PANCETTA, PEAS--ERIK’S REFINED ARTISTIC FLAIR.



“transform(ing) ingredients into a dish that looks appetizing and tastes appetizing.” Her first work of art (she couldn’t limit herself to one): Beef tenderloin atop horseradish cream sauce, with a dollop of Rogue Creamery’s ‘Smokey Blue’ and crispy leeks to garnish. The leeks looked playful, and the tenderloin sensuous—and smoky, tangy Rogue cheese put a little ‘hallelujah’ in each bite.

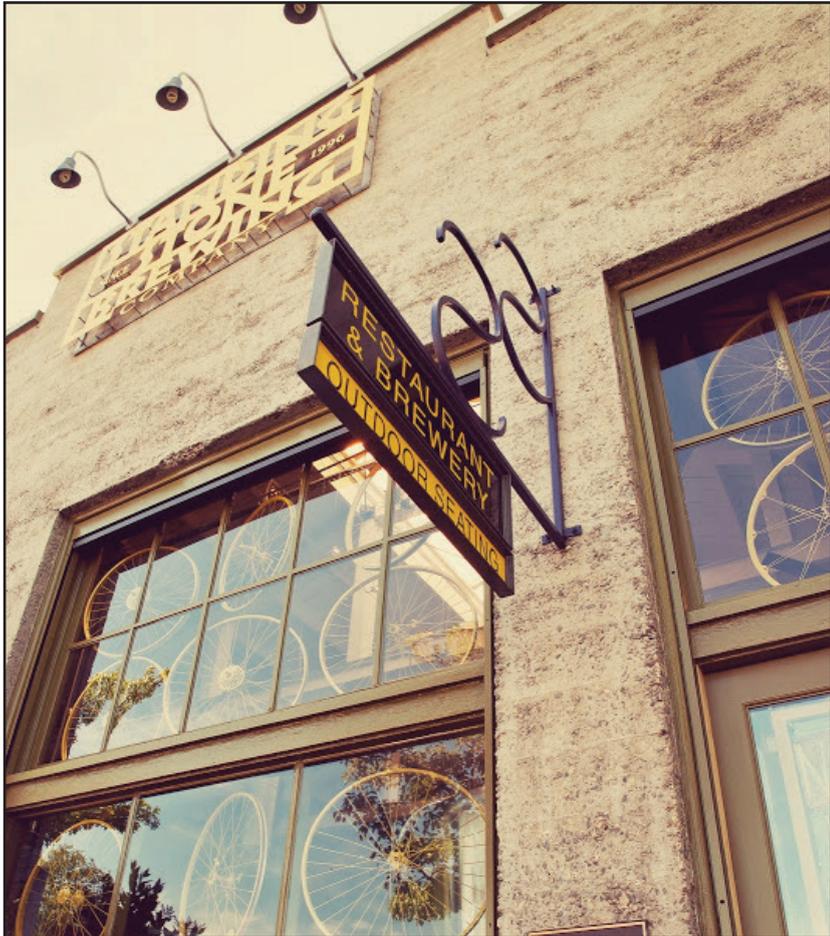
The next plate: Wild Columbia River Sturgeon atop radish top pesto, with a frisee, radish, and fresh herb salad. It seemed to pay homage to Chandra’s Alaskan roots and elicited my Pacific Northwest sentimentalities as well. The tender, buttery, full of flavor fish, sweet pesto, and bitter frisee was paired together in a lively, honestly delicious way. 🍷

Drink Local

Putting Its Money Where Its Beer Is

Standing Stone Brewing Goes For 100% Sustainability

BY MAC GRAHAM



A lineup of eight brews—three seasonal and five year-round—are brewed on-site, to headline a local/organic menu and operations plan that puts its money where it mouth is. Not just local ingredient sourcing, but there is increasingly local ingredient production, at the One Mile Farm just outside town; not just benefits and progressive training to develop a loyal, informed and enthusiastic staff, but there is an employee-commuter program that allows staff to earn free bikes; not just eco-friendly and sustainable management ideals, but there is a progressive ‘no-waste’ agenda dedicated to eliminating waste, inclusive of kitchen-scrap composting at the farm, recycling and reuse—such is the commitment at Standing Stone.

The airy, high ceiling and warehouse feel of the bar and dining rooms, the cheerful energetic waitstaff, and fabulous aromas and flavors, promptly eliminate any suggestion of “green washing” in the casual, easy-going atmosphere; this is the real deal and commitment. The hearty Northwest comfort menu is highlighted with daily specials that include One Mile Farm rib-eyes, halibut burgers, rockfish or steelhead tacos, several local poultry creations, all embellished with a diverse array of local grains, veggies and seasonings. But center stage is reserved, of course, for the brews.

My recommendation: The eight-brew tasting, with accompanying food pairings, which proceeds from light to dark, simple to complex, mild to robust. Not that anything is simple—the seasonal Commuter Gold Ale refreshes light-as-a-lager, with a light-ale spicy herbiness. Milk and Honey Ale adds lactose to honey malt, producing a striking creaminess and hint of sweet amidst the fuller body and color.

Much darker, but still light on the palate, is Steel Cut Stout that uses oats to preserve tasty smoothness while allowing the complexity of deep roasted malt to mature in notes of coffee and cocoa; um, exceptional!

Backing off the deep color theme while stepping up the hops, I “heart” Oregon Ale steeps all Oregon barley and hops for a classic unfiltered pale—crisp and citrusy. The seasonal Request IPA boosts the hops a notch, along with ABV, while retaining a dry, fruity tang without bitterness, and Cascadian Dark Ale “Hop Night” reaches 70 IBU, highest of all in the lineup, and though an aftertaste of bitter lingers, hop-assault again is avoided as heavily roasted malts soften.



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CULTURE

Rhyme, Schmyme

The Rogue Valley Poetry Scene is ... Divine

BY TUULA REBHAWN

My dad turned 80 last month, and aware that he'd survived this long without whatever crap I could have bought him, I decided instead to write him a poem. After penning into his birthday card a few rhyming verses, I assumed, as all children do, that he would love it because I wrote it. The old man studied my poem with one eye squinted and remarked that it didn't rhyme—as obviously all poetry must.

"Yes, it does," I whined, but apparently I'd missed a line or two.

"Reads like a dissertation," was the verdict.

After recovering from shock, I resolved to get some expert advice about what constitutes a good poem. Surely, this great Rogue Valley has some reclusive poets willing to help out fledgling writers and a few places for word-smiths to gather and provide constructive feedback.

Say the words "poetry" and "community" together in downtown Ashland and T-Poe Varnado, Rogue Poetry Slam-master, practically pops out of the sidewalk. Although he's just a generation behind my dad, T-Poe's ideas about poetry are radically different. "Sonnets, other forms of poetry, I never studied all of that," says T-Poe on a sunny spring morning outside Mix Bakeshop.

Starting out with love poems in his youth, he soon undammed a river of words and rhymes dealing with his experiences in Vietnam and subsequent battles.

"Poetry saved my life," T-Poe admits, and he runs the monthly slams in order to give other poets an outlet for their work as well as a sense of community. "The support and the love we all show each other is totally gratifying."

Still, the competitive environment of the Slam, in which poets are judged by audience members and compete for three cash prizes at the end of the night, sounded intimidating, so I was glad to learn about Downtowne Coffee's poetry open mic. For the past eleven years, poets from all over the Rogue Valley have congregated in Talent every third Thursday to read their work aloud.

"It's not about performance," says Medford-based poet Carol Brockfield, one of the event's organizers, "it's about the words."



T-POE ADDS UP THE SCORES IN THE FINAL ROUND OF THE ROGUE POETRY SLAM. PHOTO BY KARA LEWIS.

Brockfield, an accomplished poet herself, also heads the Rogue Valley chapter of the Oregon Poetry Association (OPA), which offers poetry education, organizes critique groups, and runs contests open to all local poets. Because getting up in front of an audience, no matter how small or supportive, still scares the bejeezus out of me, I ask Carol if there's any other way to share my writing locally.

"Sure," she says, "Do NaPoWriMo."

Wha?

To get the scoop on this strange-sounding April tradition, I headed back to Ashland to chat with renowned local poet Amy Miller. She facilitates a local group of National Poetry Writing Month participants, and if you've ever heard of NaNoWriMo, it's the same idea—only it's poems instead of bits of a novel. To the reclusive writer in me, the best news was that the Rogue Valley poets who take on this challenge do so via Facebook. Within the closed group, writers submit their daily poems, receive and offer feedback.

"It's a lot of fun," Amy says. "One person will write about a subject and set off a chain of poems written on that that theme. Right now we're writing poems about our mothers."

That's right. Parents who critique their children's art should never forget that one day they will be the subject of that very work. In my father's defense, however, I should add that Amy Miller does have a soft spot for poems that rhyme—"If it's done well."

Fellow Rogue Valley poets, I challenge you to head out to an open mic, reading, slam or OPA gathering and reap the benefits of living in a place where poetry is a living, breathing part of the community. 

ROGUE POETRY SLAM

Third Tuesday of every month (next: May 17), 7:30 pm
Caldera Tap House, downtown Ashland
\$5 cover

OPA'S SPOKEN WORD OPEN MIC

Second Tuesday of every month (next: May 12th), 6:30 pm
Downtown Coffee House, Talent

POETRY READING WITH JOHN WITTE AND ALLAN PETERSON

Saturday, April 30, 7:00 pm
Bloomsbury Books, Ashland

Art Watch

In With the New Fringe Returns to SOU

BY J.J. ROWAN

From May 9-14, Southern Oregon University will be transformed into a playground for grassroots-based performative fine arts exploring this year's Oregon Fringe Festival theme: *The New New*.

"It's a critical call to action," explains Head Producer Muuqi Maxwell, who talks about fringe festivals' ability to step beyond a sense of success or failure in art, but rather "an open space for exploration."

"Fringe," the term that snowballed into alternative art festivals around the globe, came about in the 1940s when unscheduled theater troupes showed up "round the fringe" of a performing arts festival in Scotland. Today, fringe festivals are irreverently well-established. At SOU, the Oregon Fringe Festival is entering its third year. Maxwell, along with seven other student producers, have put together six days of art installations, presentations, and general shenanigans

from a primarily student-based group of artists and performers.

Fellow Fringe Producer and CVA Student Gallery Director Hannah Bakken pointed out their focus on "cross-pollination" at this year's festival. This meant gathering artists and pulling from resources across the entire campus: they've even had the Business department get involved with marketing. And while extending their reach has been part of the production team's goal, so have sustainability and anchoring. Where last year's Fringe could be found off campus, this year will be campus-centric, to both draw the community into this educational hub of creative energy and help develop a strong base for future student producers.

A couple of the student artists featured for 2016 are Dylan Keenan and Anja DuBois. Videos of Keenan, a metal-working artist, can be seen on Fringe's Facebook page, an insight into the futuristic-looking interactive sculpture she's been welding to be displayed outside of Central Hall. DuBois' work is a soft contrast to metal and spark, an evolving and performative work with clay slip, which she'll present on Wednesday.

Though the full Fringe schedule is still in the throes of being revealed, Bakken offered a preview of the events that will bookend a busy week. The festival will open on Monday with "a silent surprise" as well as Fringe merch and an interactive performance in the Stevenson Union Courtyard. Saturday's closing event will run from 6pm until midnight with "responsive light and musical performances" in the Art Department Courtyard and local bands Slow Corpse and Impulse Control in the DeBoer Sculpture Building.

Though the production team clearly takes the work of Fringe seriously, what they're serious about is making space for art in all its unknown possibility. Their mission statement wants to see artists "explore new realities," precisely the spirit fringe festivals embody and support. As Maxwell puts it: "It's also kind of a chance to just be weird." 

OREGON FRINGE FESTIVAL

May 9-14

Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Ave, Ashland.
Full schedule at OregonFringeFestival.org

CULTURE

A Laughing Matter Cemetery Club Keeps the Audience Guffawing, and Sighing

BY SARA JANE WILTERMOOD



LUCILLE AND DORIS FEUD, WHILE IDA TRIES TO GET THEM TO TALK IT OUT BY MAKING UP THEIR HOROSCOPE. PHOTO BY NANCY RYAN.

As kids, we are taught that it is impolite to laugh at a funeral, but as we grow older and attend more of them, we learn that remembering the life of the person who is gone—especially the happy times with laughter—eases the pain of missing them. In Barnstormers Theatre’s rendition of Ivan Menchell’s *The Cemetery Club*, raucous laughter abounds, even though “half of the members of the club are dead.”

Doris, Ida and Lucille are three Jewish widows in Queens, New York who have visited their late husbands’ graves together once a month since their passing—with varying degrees of interest as the years go by. While Doris sits and talks to him about what is going on in her life, Ida wonders aloud if she should move on to a new relationship, and Lucille files her nails with boredom, asking “Read any good books lately?” As the three friends chose to “move on” or not in their own ways, they remain friends and continue to share life together, for better or for worse.

Doris, Ida and Lucille couldn’t have been better cast or played. Ronda Bagley, Elizabeth Newton and Rose Wingenbach (respectively) each played their roles close to perfection; their rapport with one another was superb, and their New York accents sure made this West Coast native feel like I had the out-of-town accent. One-liners abounded, and the delivery—especially Wingenbach’s—left my stomach aching from laughter. And alternately, the authenticity of their friendship, from sorrow to meddling, evoked a moist eye at certain moments. Though one might assume that such a storyline would appeal to only an older audience, the friendship at the foundation of the play is one that almost any age group can connect with. 

THE CEMETERY CLUB

2 and 7:30 pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Through May 8.
Barnstormers Theatre, 112 NE Evelyn Ave, Grants Pass.

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May 7

LIVE MUSIC: THE ELEPHANT Acoustic Folk Duo from Southern Oregon 9pm

May 1

5 Course Prix Fixe Vegetarian Dinner at 6pm
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SPORTS & Outdoor

The Elk Mountain Highland Games and May Day An Eclectic, Family-Friendly Event

BY DAC COLLINS

For centuries, traditional agrarian societies throughout Europe have celebrated the changing of seasons and the fertility of our planet with a May Day festival. By then, most farmers have finished seeding their fields and are ready to feast, play music and dance around the May Pole.

If any of that sounds appealing, be sure to check out the third annual Elk Mountain Highland Games and May Day taking place on April 30 and May 1 at the Evans Valley Education and Community Center. The Center is located in the small community of Wimer. The two-day event features live music along with a series of demos and workshops, including blacksmiths at work and knights wielding long swords, javelins and other medieval weaponry, as well as some low-key *Games of Thrones* skill-building also available, like building an earthen oven and spinning wool into thread.

The Highland Games also add a competitive dimension to the festival. Akin to a Scottish strong-man competition, the Games incorporate heavy athletic events like the caber toss and the stone put. Since the festival is geared towards families, children eight years and older are invited to participate in the competition. Adults will compete at 9 am and the kids will take the field around 10:30 am each day.

Mike Ivan, the event organizer, calls it “a funky renaissance fair.” He had the idea for a May Day event a few years ago when the Community Center was looking for ways to raise funds.

The property at 8205 E. Evans Creek Rd. was originally the site of the Evans Valley Elementary School, which

it organization, and they successfully repurchased the land from the district two years later. The Evans Valley Education and Community Center is the result of their determination to return the school to the community that built it.

“The property we have is 28 acres and it’s a really nice, woodsy property. We thought it’d be a really fitting place to have a Highland Games event and add a little Celtic flavor to it,” Ivan says, adding that one of the most popular attractions in years past has been the edged weapons competition, featuring a sword course as well as axe, knife and spear throwing. The May Pole itself has also been a big hit, especially with the little ones.

All proceeds from the festival go toward renovating the school building and supporting various projects around the property. According to Ivan, who calls the building “an old girl with old parts,” says the first priority is to fix the leaky roof and install an HVAC system.

“We’re just trying to create a grassroots community center,” Ivan says. “It’d be nice to have a place where you can play basketball in the winter, maybe have a community garden.”

So come out to support a local community or just come for the fun of it. Either way we’ll see you around the May Pole. 🎈



APRIL 30 & MAY 1 - ELK MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES & MAY DAY
FESTIVAL IN ROGUE RIVER

was shut down by the Rogue River School District in 2010. Local citizens then got together to form a non-prof-

Elk Mountain Highland Games and May Day
10 am - 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday,
April 30 and May 1
Evans Valley Education and Community Center,
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\$10, adults. \$5, children. Free, kids 10 and under.
Two day passes: \$15, adults. \$10, children.

Go Here

Hikes With a View

BY MIKE DICKENSON

Snow-topped peaks and green valleys provide excellent eye-candy this time of year. Hikers (and painters and photographers) seeking a vantage point will be rewarded for their efforts. Southern Oregon offers plenty of spots for wide expansive views at the end of a good hike. Local go-tos include the ever popular Table Rock trails, Grizzly Peak, and Pilot Rock, to name just a few. For the more adventurous, several places exist a bit further from the normal hiking staples. As warmer temperatures increase, that high elevation snow will retreat, allowing outdoorsy art makers a chance to create and recreate.

Mount Scott: Undoubtedly, the most breathtaking view of the deepest lake in the country. This small stratovolcano on the southeast flank of Crater Lake is the highest point within the park. A small lookout tower waits on the summit at the end of relatively gradual trail (4.4 miles round trip). Though this may not be open for a few months, it is a must, and should be kept in mind once temperatures begin to rise again.

Red Butte: Atop the 20,000 acre Red Buttes Wilderness, an area that sits between Oregon and California in the Siskiyou Mountains, these views are expansive. Enjoy the high peaks of the

Marble Mountains to the south, the gentler peaks of the Siskiyou to the east (with Mount Mcloughlin just behind), the dominating Preston Peak to the west, and the ever present Mt. Shasta. Snow may exist for a while still, though anyone with enough determination can make it to the top. When not taking in the stunning views, stop to appreciate the wide range of bright colors that comprise the weathered rocks. Don’t be surprised if you have the whole place to yourself.

Wagner Butte: Located in the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest southwest of Ashland, Wagner Butte overlooks Bear Creek Valley and on clear

days offers views of the Rogue and Applegate Valleys as well as Mt. Shasta and Mt. Thielsen. Accessible from late spring until late fall, make sure forecast looks good before you head out. Best to start early to avoid crippling heat and thunderstorms.

Stein Buttes: A great hike for both the visually and historically-minded hikers. Hydraulic, surface, and lode mining activity can be found along the trail which begins at the Seattle Bar Day Use Area. Stunning views of Applegate Lake and the Siskiyou Mountains can be seen from the ridge. 🎈

SCREEN

Ashland Child Actor Turned Star

Neville Archambault's Eerie Role in *13 Cameras* Achieves Rave Reviews

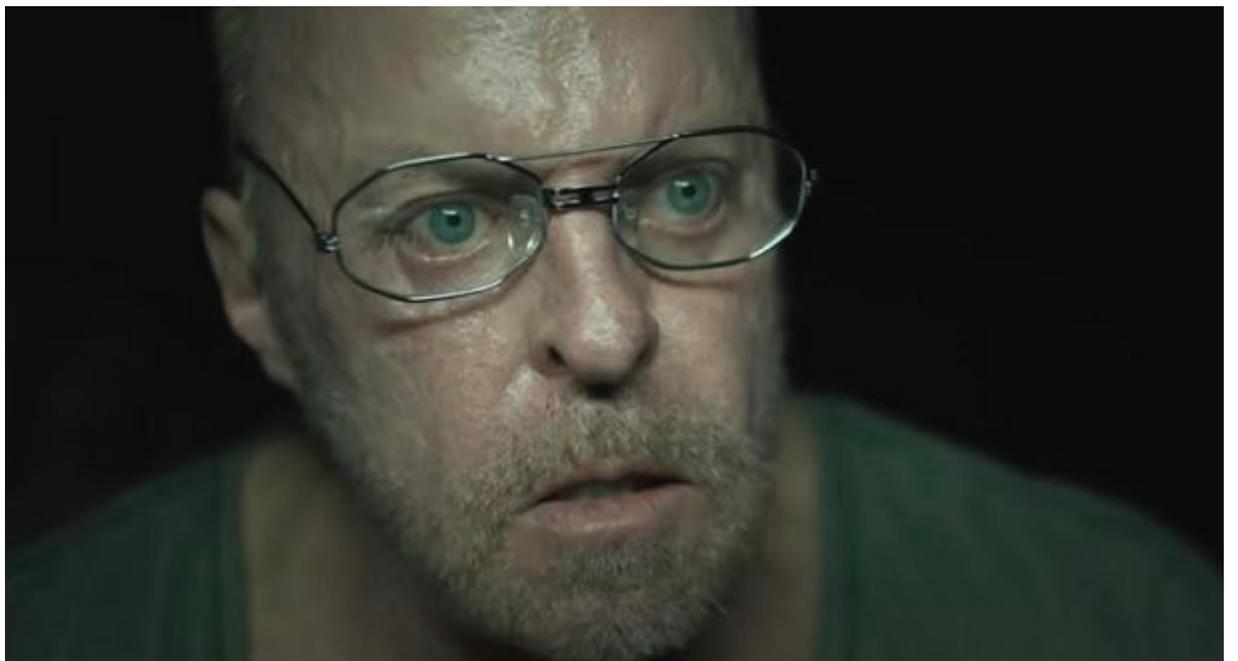
BY REYNARD SEIFERT



1974, HAMLET; NEVILLE, IN COSTUME SHOT



PHOTOS COURTESY OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL. 1974, HAMLET; NEVILLE, IN COSTUME SHOT



The star of the new film *"13 Cameras,"* Neville Archambault, got his start with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival back in the 1970s, when he was still a high school student at Ashland High.

The film recently played in theaters in LA and New York, as well as major cities dotting the country, picking up glowing reviews from *The New York Times*, who credited Archambault for making the filmmaker's vision become a reality. They said his character's motives were "deliciously unclear." As of press time, *"13 Cameras"* had a 75% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Ain't It Cool News, a major online review site, called it, "A Horror Movie of the Highest Caliber." It's available now on demand through Time Warner and Xfinity.

When he was just 16, Neville first played Wally Webb in a production of *"Our Town"* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Back in 1973, *The Daily Tidings* reported that he nearly fainted attempting to suppress a coughing spell, as he had a cold during a performance of *Our Town*, his first big role. Clearly, Neville had what it takes to make it as a professional actor. Young actors of the Rogue Valley, let it be known—you can be a star!

Neville also appeared on stage for Medford High

School, the Southern Oregon Wagon Theater, and three characters in a production of *"The Unicorn Magic Show"*. After *"Our Town,"* he played China John in *"The Alchemist"* at the Shakespeare Festival. On Neville's Actor/Director Facebook page, Jeff Keith said it was "the very first thing I saw at Ashland and the best production of that play I've seen!" Archambault also played William Page in *"The Merry Wives of Windsor"* and Alexander Court in *"Henry the Fifth."*

After making up for missed classes at Ashland High, Neville went on to work in TV and commercials. He took a break from acting, but wound up on a Mexican TV series called *"Acapulco Bay."* He went back to acting and has since appeared in movies and TV shows, including *"Law & Order: Special Victims Unit"* and the title role in *Solomon Grundy*, in which he played an 8-year-old's imaginary friend who has still not gone away when the boy reaches adulthood. He also played "Scary Man" in the Puerto Rican film, *Looking for Maria Sanchez*. It seems Archambault has likely found his voice inhabiting the darker corners of human nature.

Originally called *"Slumlord,"* *"13 Cameras"* has Neville playing Gerald, a creepy landlord who peeps on his new

tenants, Ryan and Claire, but this voyeur's motives are as unclear as Neville's face, tormented, seemingly held in a trance of exertion, his eyes a kind of dazed, disgusted wonder, his slack jaw lending an eeriness to his discombobulated glasses. *Hollywood Report* said the film explored "society's penchant for 24/7 video surveillance," as Gerald has rigged the house with closed-circuit cameras prior to renting it, supposedly for security. But Gerald soon finds out that the couple's marital problems are deepening when Ryan is seen cheating on his pregnant wife Claire, and the house spins out of control and into chaos. The film played festivals like Fantasia International Film Festival in Montreal and San Francisco's, Another Hole in the Head.

Archambault is a dual citizen of New Zealand and is currently splitting his time between New York and Los Angeles, as he reads for casting agents who have only seen the trailer for *"13 Cameras."* He spends a lot of time with his family in Oregon, where he is still fondly remembered by many from his days on the Shakespeare stage. 🍷

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WELLNESS

Like Switching from Gasoline to Diesel Is the Ketogenic Diet for You?

DR. DEBORAH GORDON



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Ketogenic refers to a way of eating that shifts the body's fuel source from mostly sugar (in its various forms: grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy) to mostly fat. When the body burns fat for fuel, the liver takes some of those fats and turns them into water-soluble molecules known as ketones. Ketones are very handy as sources of energy, particularly in the brain! Fat molecules themselves cannot cross into the brain, but ketones can, and once in the brain can be used for energy. Most people love the mental energy and clarity that comes when the brain is relying on ketones for fuel.

In situations of starvation, there is obviously no sugar available and ketone levels go up. Diabetics who don't make their own insulin (the protein that enables us to use sugar for fuel) also lack sugar, so they burn up their body fat, and their ketones can go dangerously high. You may have heard the phrase "ketoacidosis" referring to a state that can be very dangerous for diabetics and makes ketones sound kind of scary. Non-diabetics with ketones go into "ketosis," but never "ketoacidosis." Whew.

Far from scary, there are situations where ketones are actually incredibly useful. Doctors first sugar-deprived patients into ketosis when treating epilepsy in children before drugs were available. It seems the brain just *loves* ketones and the diet was then, and still is, very useful in the control of seizures before drugs as a substitute or adjunct to drug treatment.

Ketogenic diets are also a handy way to teach your body to burn fat for fuel, very good if you have extra fat on your body you would love to burn, OR if you are a long-distance athlete who doesn't want to stop to eat every half hour as you burn through your stored sugar reserves. Ketogenic diets are also being investigated as a tool for fighting cancer. Many cancers (especially some brain, breast, and prostate cancers) are highly dependent on sugar for fuel, so when the fuel shifts to ketones it can prevent some cancers from growing, at least temporarily.

There are two ways to go into ketosis. You can eat a very low carbohydrate diet by avoiding grains, starches, root vegetables, and all fruits other than berries. Choose only full fat dairy, or better yet: cream and butter! Supplement this very

low carb diet with ketones and you can get into ketosis. Ketones are now available commercially, but for years folks have supplemented with either coconut oil or MCT oil (medium chain triglyceride oil, derived from coconut oil) to get into ketosis. The other way to achieve ketosis is by eating a very very very low carb diet, with only limited protein, and eating LOTS of fat! Eventually your body just gives up looking for sugar, and takes that dietary fat *and* some of your body fat, and just creates the ketones your body needs from all that fat.

Before you worry about "getting fat," remember that eating fat doesn't make you fat, and being in ketosis means your body burns fat for fuel, and you are way more likely to lose weight! Nor is eating all that fat (if it's good quality) bad for your heart. There are some hazards though. Some folks get the "low carb flu" as they adjust, or headaches, or sleep disturbances. Those who have ever had kidney stones have to be careful: ketosis raises the risk of stones. Most folks, not all, feel very good once they get over the introduction and well into ketosis.

Folks with any health problems should consult a knowledgeable practitioner before "trying this at home." Recipes and meal plans are easily found on the internet, and all of your local health food stores carry nice forms of both coconut oil and MCT oil, found in the supplement section, not with the cooking oils. 🍷

Read more of Dr. Deborah's healthy insights at www.DrDeborahMD.com.

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www.DogsForTheDeaf.org

WHAT: Dogs for the Deaf is proud to bring awareness to our mission by hosting the 25th anniversary of our fundraising Dog Walk. It is our largest local fundraising event and draws hundreds of Southern Oregon's most devoted dog lovers and supporters

DATE: Saturday, May 14, 2016 | **TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Jacksonville Elementary School
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ABOUT DOGS FOR THE DEAF: Dogs for the Deaf was founded in 1977 by the late Roy G. Kabat, a long-time Hollywood and circus animal trainer who trained animals for motion pictures and television shows including "Dr. Doolittle" and "Born Free." His daughter, Robin Dickson, was his successor and ran Dogs for the Deaf until her retirement in 2013. Blake Matray, a retired United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, is the current President and CEO of Dogs for the Deaf.

CONTACT:
 Amber Houchen, Event Coordinator
 (541) 826-9220, Ext. 326 or Amber@DogsForTheDeaf.org

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The oracle I'm about to present may be controversial. It contains advice that most astrologers would never dare to offer an Aries. But I believe you are more receptive than usual to this challenge, and I am also convinced that you especially need it right now. Are you ready to be pushed further than I have ever pushed you? Study this quote from novelist Mark Z. Danielewski: "Passion has little to do with euphoria and everything to do with patience. It is not about feeling good. It is about endurance. Like patience, passion comes from the same Latin root: pati."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You're in a phase of your cycle when you'll be rewarded for your freshness and originality. The more you cultivate a "beginner's mind," the smarter you will be. What you want will become more possible to the degree that you shed everything you think you know about what you want. As the artist Henri Matisse said, if a truly creative painter hopes to paint a rose, he or she "first has to forget all the roses that were ever painted." What would be the equivalent type of forgetting in your own life?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "Am I still a hero if the only person I save is myself?" asks poet B. Damani. If you posed that question to me right now, I would reply, "Yes, Gemini. You are still a hero if the only person you save is yourself." If you asked me to elaborate, I'd say, "In fact, saving yourself is the only way you can be a hero right now. You can't rescue or fix or rehabilitate anyone else unless and until you can rescue and fix and rehabilitate yourself." If you pushed me to provide you with a hint about how you should approach this challenge, I'd be bold and finish with a flourish: "Now I dare you to be the kind of hero you have always feared was beyond your capacity."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "We need people in our lives with whom we can be as open as possible," declares psychotherapist Thomas Moore. I agree. Our mental health thrives when we can have candid conversations with free spirits who don't censor themselves and don't expect us to water down what we say. This is always true, of course, but it will be an absolute necessity for you in the coming weeks. So I suggest that you do everything you can to put yourself in the company of curious minds that love to hear and tell the truth. Look for opportunities to express yourself with extra clarity and depth. "To have real conversations with people may seem like such a simple, obvious suggestion," says Moore, "but it involves courage and risk."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I watched a video of a helicopter pilot as he descended from the sky and tried to land his vehicle on the small deck of a Danish ship patrolling the North Sea. The weather was blustery and the seas were choppy. The task looked at best strenuous, at worst impossible. The pilot hovered patiently as the ship pitched wildly. Finally there was a brief calm, and he seized on that moment to settle down safely. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you may have a metaphorically similar challenge in the coming days. To be successful, all you have to do is be alert for the brief calm, and then act with swift, relaxed decisiveness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Show me a man who isn't a slave," wrote the Roman philosopher Seneca. "One is a slave to sex, another to money, another to ambition; all are slaves to hope or fear." Commenting on Seneca's thought, blogger Ryan Holiday says, "I'm disappointed in my enslavement to self-doubt, to my resentment towards those that I dislike, to the power that the favor and approval of certain people hold over me." What about you, Virgo? Are there any emotional states or bedeviling thoughts or addictive desires that you're a slave to? The coming weeks will be a favorable time to emancipate yourself. As you do, remember this: There's a difference between being compulsively driven by a delusion and lovingly devoted to a worthy goal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Everyone who has ever built a new heaven first found the power to do so in his own hell." That noble truth was uttered by Libran philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, and I bet it will be especially meaningful for most of you during the rest of 2016. The bad news is that in the past few months you've had to reconnoiter your own hell a little more than you would have liked, even if it has been pretty damn interesting. The good news is that these explorations will soon be winding down. The fantastic news is that you are already getting glimpses of how to use what you've been learning. You'll be well-prepared when the time comes to start constructing a new heaven.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Zugzwang" is a German-derived word used in chess and other games. It refers to a predicament in which a player cannot possible make a good move. Every available option will weaken his or her position. I propose that we coin a new word that means the opposite of zugzwang: "zugfrei," which shall hereafter signify a situation in which every choice you have in front of you is a positive or constructive one; you cannot make a wrong move. I think this captures the essence of the coming days for you, Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "We have to learn how to live with our frailties," poet Stanley Kunitz told The Paris Review. "The best people I know are inadequate and unashamed." That's the keynote I hope you will adopt in the coming weeks. No matter how strong and capable you are, no matter how hard you try to be your best, there are ways you fall short of perfection. And now is a special phase of your astrological cycle when you can learn a lot about how to feel at peace with that fact.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): How do plants reproduce? They generate seeds that are designed to travel. Dandelion and orchid seeds are so light they can drift long distances through the air. Milkweed seeds are a bit heavier, but are easily carried by the wind. Foxglove and sycamore seeds are so buoyant they can float on flowing water. Birds and other animals serve as transportation for burdock seeds, which hook onto feather and fur. Fruit seeds may be eaten by animals and later excreted, fully intact, far from their original homes. I hope this meditation stimulates you to think creatively about dispersing your own metaphorical seeds, Capricorn. It's time for you to vividly express your essence, make your mark, spread your influence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "It is a fault to wish to be understood before we have made ourselves clear to ourselves," said philosopher Simone Weil. I hope that prod makes you feel a bit uncomfortable, Aquarius. I hope it motivates you to get busy investigating some of your vague ideas and fuzzy self-images and confused intentions. It will soon be high time for you to ask for more empathy and acknowledgment from those whose opinions matter to you. You're overdue to be more appreciated, to be seen for who you really are. But before any of that good stuff can happen, you will have to engage in a flurry of introspection. You've got to clarify and deepen your relationship with yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "I have never let my schooling interfere with my education," said writer Mark Twain. That's excellent advice for you to apply and explore in the coming weeks. Much of the time, the knowledge you have accumulated and the skills you have developed are supreme assets. But for the immediate future, they could obstruct you from learning the lessons you need most. For instance, they might trick you into thinking you are smarter than you really are. Or they could cause you to miss simple and seemingly obvious truths that your sophisticated perspective is too proud to notice. Be a humble student, my dear. 

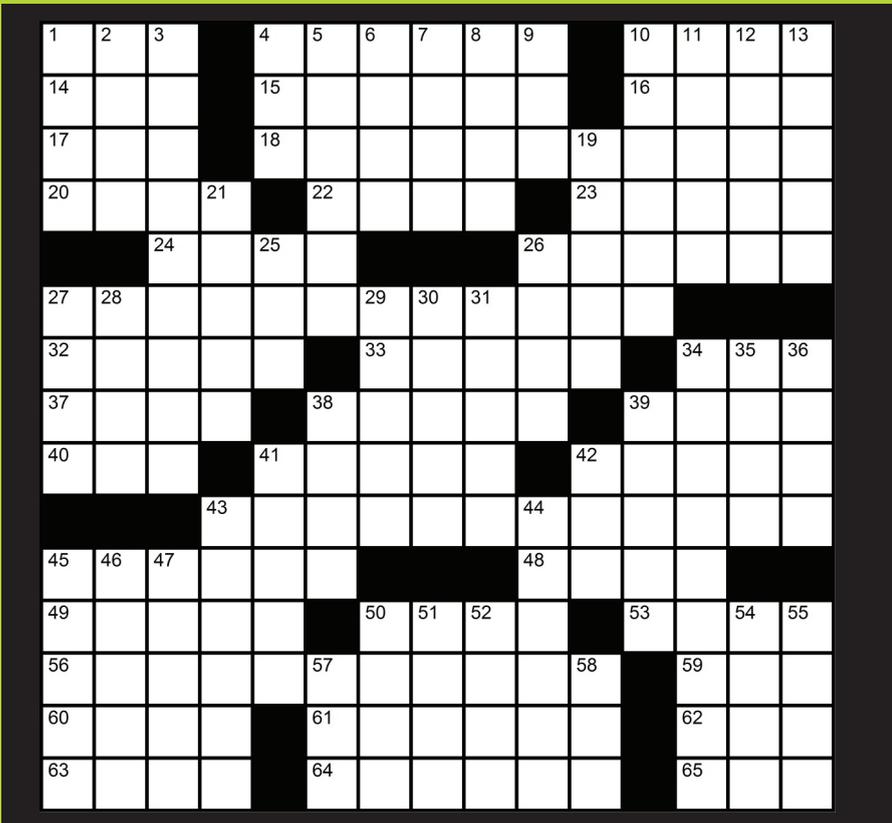
HOMEWORK:

Describe how you've fought off the seductive power of trendy cynicism without turning into a gullible Pollyanna. Freewillastrology.com.



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Across

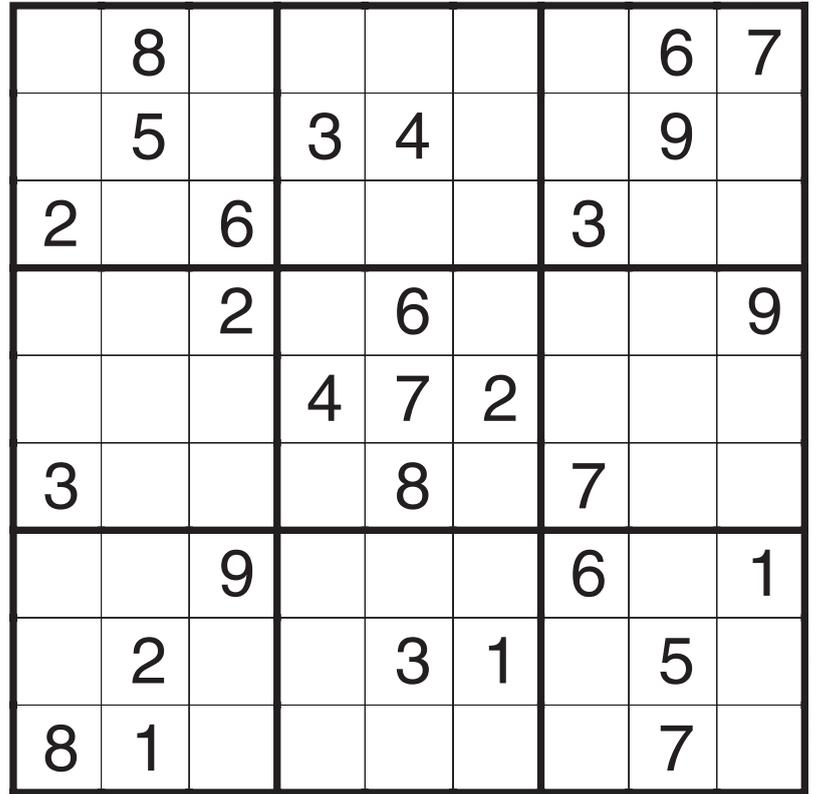
- 1 Hoover, e.g.
- 4 He came back for a "Big Holiday" in 2016
- 10 Participates in an auction
- 14 Roswell craft
- 15 ___-Lorraine (area in northeast France)
- 16 "A Streetcar Named Desire" director Kazan
- 17 ___ de mer
- 18 Veteran Marine, in slang
- 20 Cold one
- 22 Corleone patriarch
- 23 A year in Paris
- 24 Lawsuit
- 26 Pair with a lot of pull?
- 27 Spherical treat that comes from a toroid
- 32 Bowler's place
- 33 Hockey Hall of Famer Cam
- 34 Kal Penn's costar John
- 37 Hitchcock title word
- 38 ___ au poivre
- 39 "The Grapes of Wrath" family name
- 40 Neither's partner
- 41 Graphics program included with Windows 1.0
- 42 Carried, as by the wind
- 43 Sprays some sticky stuff as a prank
- 45 Answer sharply
- 48 Plasma particles
- 49 Not mine, in bucolic comic strips
- 50 Carpenter's leveler
- 53 Autocorrect target
- 56 Poopo or Titicaca, e.g.
- 59 Empty (of)
- 60 About, formally
- 61 "I can't hear you!"
- 62 Four-color card game
- 63 King with three daughters
- 64 John Doe, e.g.
- 65 Part of rpm

Down

- 1 Like some mistakes
- 2 In the distance
- 3 Like some small biological projects?
- 4 Chum
- 5 Late hour, for some
- 6 "Caprica" star Morales
- 7 Light bulb unit
- 8 Reverb (and a cliché when a character thinks it's someone else)
- 9 Ultra-wide shoe size
- 10 He was associated with the Jets
- 11 "Mr. Belvedere" actress Graff
- 12 Vegetable cutter
- 13 Fermented rice drinks
- 19 Recover from a setback
- 21 Final Jeopardy! amount
- 25 Not forthcoming
- 26 Eleventh U.S. president
- 27 "Shoot!"
- 28 It's sold in bars and tubs
- 29 No later than
- 30 Pint-sized
- 31 Events at meets
- 34 Sweetener under recent scrutiny
- 35 Install in a gallery, maybe
- 36 Neruda works
- 38 Seasonal addition?
- 39 It usually gets rolled
- 41 Schroeder's prop
- 42 ___-country (2010s music genre)
- 43 Comparatively agile
- 44 Opportune
- 45 Emmy-winning title role for Sally Field
- 46 All's opposite
- 47 Tony-winning actress McDonald
- 50 Graceful swimmer
- 51 Xbox series since 2001
- 52 "Was ___ inside job?"
- 54 Maine's state tree
- 55 Paper factory side effect
- 57 Ft. Lauderdale locale
- 58 Aries' animal

SUKOKU

NO. 145 - TOUGH



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Previous solution - Medium

6	8	1	2	3	7	9	4	5
9	7	3	4	5	1	8	2	6
5	2	4	8	6	9	1	3	7
7	6	8	9	1	2	3	5	4
1	3	2	6	4	5	7	8	9
4	5	9	3	7	8	2	6	1
8	4	7	5	9	3	6	1	2
3	9	5	1	2	6	4	7	8
2	1	6	7	8	4	5	9	3

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

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