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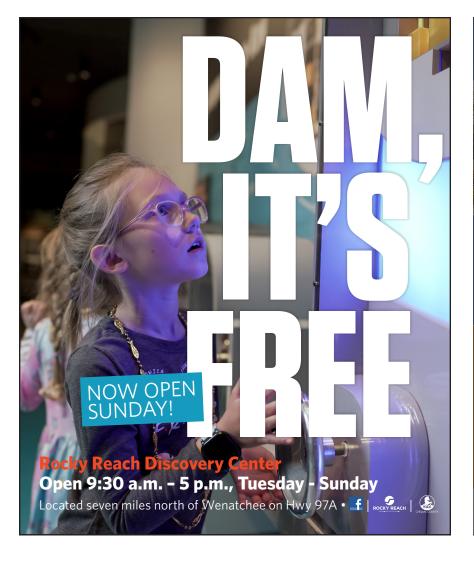
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"My first time ever in a theater, 9 years old, I sat way up in the balcony for a David Cassidy concert. It was so cool!"

- J. Woody Lotts





Year 16, Number 8 August 2022

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### >> CATCHING UP WITH...

### Cashmere Founders' Day



Photo by Shannon Keller

Classic cars were everywhere (145 to be exact), barbecues blazing, bake sales raising funds for local teams, a kids' scavenger hunt and weather warm enough for the fire department to spray folks down with their ladder truck. It must be summer!

Thank you, John Prescott and the Mission Creek Community Club, for your hard work in making the Cashmere Founders' Day Parade and Car Show a huge success!

Thank you to the Cashmere Chamber of Commerce for your special acknowledgement of the P'squosa as the Founders' Day 2022 Founding Family. The P'squosa (Wenatchi) tribe were the original inhabitants of the Wenatchee Valley and the current town of Cashmere.

### >> ON THE COVER

Photo by Mike Irwin

Salyna Gracie's full-time studio is above the Confluence Gallery in Twisp. Although she's sidelined this summer from stair use, she's fashioned her dining room into a temporary workplace where, as pictured here, she can continue to add layers to her in-progress paintings.

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Historian, author, and teacher Rod Molzahn can be reached at shake.speak@nwi.net. His recent book, "What They Found, Stories of People in North Central Washington," is available at newstories.net and at retail locations throughout the area.



When he retired in 2013, Peter Bauer moved from Wenatchee to Winthrop for the snowy winters and closeness to nature. His blog, "American Safari," cebrating the beauty of the animal world (mostly birds), can be found at pbauwawordpress.com.

This magazine would not exist without each and every one of the individuals you see below. However, this page is only so big, and each of these people deserves more space to talk about their lives, journeys and careers.

Read on to learn more about your favorites contributors, where you can see more of their work, and even ways you can reach out to them directly.

Each issue of The Good Life will have a slightly different makeup of contributors, so this page will also change accordingly.

- Joseph Claypoole, Editor



Dan McConnell has drawn comics, political cartoons, caricatures and more for a variety of publications, including Reader's Digest, MAD magazine and The Good Life. His work is available online.



Sue Blanchard teaches pioneer history and is currently a resident of East Wenatchee. She is retired, blessed with time and creativity, and loves writing.



Susan Lagsdin has been writing aritcles for The Good Life, mostly about intriguing homes in the region and all kinds of artists, since 2009. A teacher, poet and Write On The River board member, she lives in East Wenatchee and spends horseback time in the Methow Valley. You can reach her at sjlagsdin@ yahoo.com with story ideas.



Susan Blair is a published poet, writer and arts event organizer living in Wenatchee. She is also the editor of The Shrub-Steppe Poetry Journal. Reach her at sfblair61@gmail.com or visit the website, shrubsteppepoetry.org.



June Darling, Ph.D., can be contacted at drjunedarlingl@ gmail.com; website at summitgroupresources.com. Her bio and many of her books can be found at amazon.com/author/june darling.



Linda Reid is a regular Good Life contributor. She and her husband, Ken, live in East Wenatchee. They love living in the center of the state. There is always an adventure waiting in any direction they choose to go.



After visiting the valley for 20 years, Leslie Bigos moved to East Wenatchee seven years ago. The Cotswold Way was her third long distance walk; she has also walked the Coast to Coast in England and the Queen Charlotte Track in New Zealand. She loves photography and her Fuji XT4. She can be reached at lesliebigos@gmail. com



Brad Skiff has a bachelor's degree from WWU in English/ creative writing and a National Board teaching certificate in art. He currently teaches in the Bridgeport School District. In his spare time, Brad draws award-winning, weekly editorial cartoons for the Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle and Cheney Free Press.



Susan Rae Sampson is a retired courtroom lawyer. She and her husband, a retired aerospace engineer, live in Malaga, where she corresponds with two sons and three grandsons living in other states, and grows old garden roses and Loganberries from her grandparents' garden.



Barbara Washburn is a freelance journalist and native of, along with frequent traveler to, Bavaria. As for her permanent residence, she has traded the Alps for the beautiful Cascade Mountain Range views in Leavenworth.



Mike Irwin is a longtime NCW newspaperman who now enjoys retirement's rewards - reading, cooking, walking, napping, traveling and taking photos. You can see his work at IrwinFoto.

### Does a Sapsucker Suck Sap?



Photos and story by Peter Bauer

aaaw!" The distinct and plaintive high-pitched cry lets us know that our visiting red-naped sapsucker has arrived.

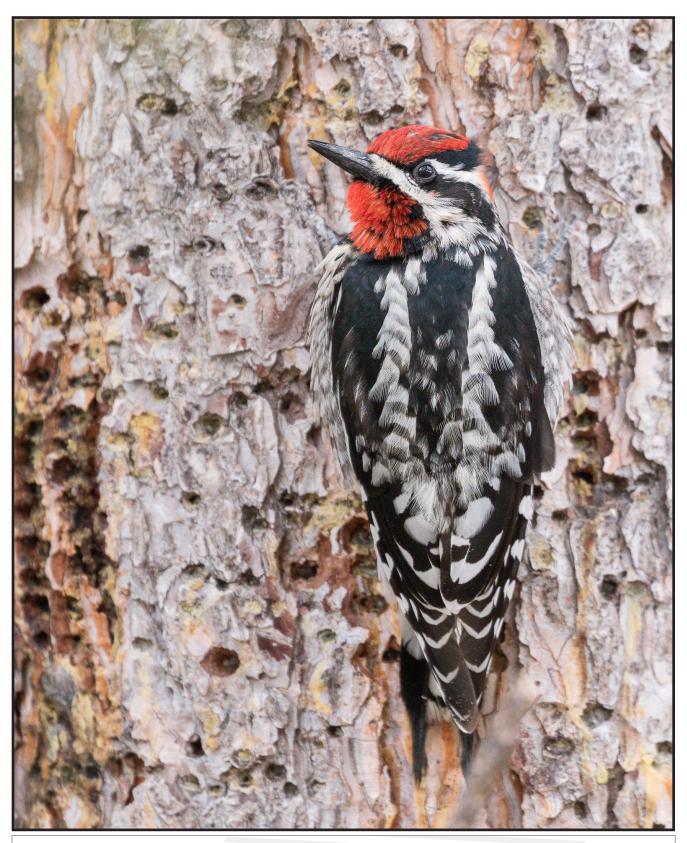
Red-naped sapsuckers are distinguished by a red patch on the back of the head in addition to the red on the tops of the head and throat. The rest of their bodies are striped and dotted in whites and blacks, with some variation between adult males and females.

The one that visits us hops up the trunk of our fruit trees, pecking at a few spots in a desultory way, then moves abruptly to another fruit tree. The behavior reminds me of a preschool child picking at the food on her plate before leaping up to play. Gleaning insects out of bark isn't the bird's main diet.

Sapsuckers are woodpeckers with distinctive eating habits. They drill multiple neat holes in trees just deep enough to reach the cambium (the sap-conveying living part of the tree). As the little puncture wounds fill with sap, they lap the liquid up with a tongue containing hair-like projections that hold liquid well.

Sapsuckers will also eat the insects that are attracted by the sap, and occasionally insects out of the air or in the bark of trees.

Sapsuckers' drumming pattern also distinguishes them from other woodpeckers. When you hear drumming that slows down at the end as if the bird were tiring, that's a sapsucker. The other woodpeckers, like flickers and hairy woodpeckers,



An adult sapsucker on a tree with the multiple sap "wells" he had excavated. Alternatively, though not as often, these birds will also eat seeds and berries, and sometimes even catch insects mid-air.





Ready to feed the chicks! Sometimes chicks can be very aggressive with their parents when in want of food (hangry perhaps?). Their cheeps and calls when hungry are also widely noted as impressive, both for their volume and repetition.

A chick shortly before leaving the nest. These chicks, and their adults, are often mistaken for their Yellow-bellied and Red-breasted counterparts, which were though to be the same species up until 1983.

drum with a steady, rapid beat throughout. Drumming, used for signaling territory or advertising for a mate, differs from pecking for food, which is irregular and much quieter.

A few years ago, I found a sapsucker nest in June by walking through aspen forests listening for the sounds of chicks cheeping to be fed. Once I located the sound, patient observations revealed a mated pair of rednaped sapsucker adults shuttling food to the nest every five minutes. Amusingly, the chicks never stopped cheeping on any of my multiple visits — not before being fed, during feeding or in the intervals between feedings.

My wife and I kept such frequent tabs on the nest that we

even got to see the chicks fledge. They would stick their heads out of the nest for minutes on end, then suddenly throw themselves into the air, flap madly, and land awkwardly on a nearby branch. There they would hang for a minute or two, as if stunned by what just happened, before subsequently regaining their wits and flying to a more stable

branch. I've never actually seen any other bird species at the moment of leaving the nest, so I was very glad our "stakeout" paid off.

When he retired in 2013, Peter Bauer moved from Wenatchee to Winthrop for the snowy winters and closeness to nature. His blog, "American Safari," celebrating the beauty of the animal world (mostly birds), can be found at pbauwa.wordpress.com.



Photo by Mike Irwin

Story by Susan Lagsdin

The medium is the message" — it's a common saying, not always exemplified in visual art. But the aphorism proves true in almost every painting that Twisp artist Salyna Gracie produces: She explores and reveals hidden layers of meaning, using an art form that's ideally suited to that level of intrigue.

Her first artworks were collages, but her signature medium has become "encaustic," waxy, translucent layers that can create a foggy underlay of images, a glow from below, or a luminous patina. Each new layer has the potential to draw the eye and change the direction of the whole painting.

"You learn to respond to what happens," Salyna said. "I let the

happens," Salyna said. "I let the art take me where it wants to go, rather than controlling it." With roots in ancient Greece, encaustic is a heated combina-

With roots in ancient Greece, encaustic is a heated combination of beeswax (for transparency), resin (for strength) and powdered pigment (for color). Each successive application, sometimes hundreds in one painting, cools and then is fused to the next with direct heat. Salyna's choice of substrate these days is white-plastered birch panels, but she's eager to try using clay as a base.

Encaustic is a medium that

begs for experimentation, so Salyna may add shellac, charcoal and graphite to the basic recipe. She'll etch images with a stylus, perhaps layer maps and photos, then finish with paint and gold leaf, combining the waxy layers and assorted collage elements to creates uniquely textured works of art.

In her small home near downtown Twisp, Salyna Gracie has surrounded herself with carefully curated colors, fabrics, pottery, plants and travel treasures. Her working studio is above the Confluence Gallery, but her hall-

And the message in that complex, many-faceted medium? In Salyna's words, "I'm interested in the correlation of nature to the inner landscape: Soul work, mythology, mysticism and spiritual awakening." The themes that pervade the artist's 20 or more

collections of multilayered paintings, each with a guiding artist statement, bear out her fascination with the unseen and the unknowable.

- She says of her "Following the Light" series, replete with night woods, birds on the wing and golden moons, "The essence of my journey is to trust that the way will be revealed, and for me, the reliable signpost is light. Light within, Light without. Light always pierces the darkness and leads the way home."
- A self-directed residency at
- >>> Continued on next page

way is filled with a rotating display of paintings by Gracie and other artists.



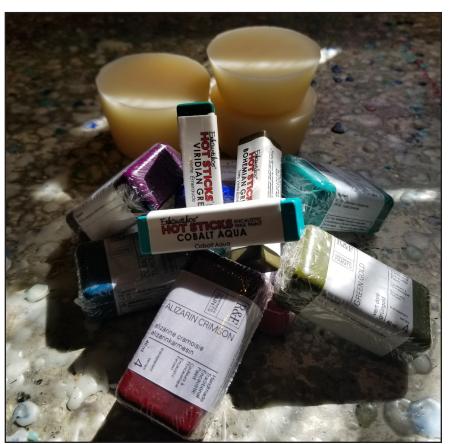


Samples of Salyna's art

These three samples, selected from several discrete collections, show both a range of theme and Salyna's clearly defined personal style. From left to right they are "Night Travels Crow Knows II," "Swallow Dance III," and "Ashk Olsun (Let There Be Love)."

arts incubator Centrum at Fort Worden, Wash., helped her create "Arboressence," a study of trees informed by her own fascination with plant life probed by fundamental queries: "What do I perceive? What am I missing? What should I be asking? What do I think I know that I should reconsider?"

• "Awakened Dreams," a solo show scheduled for this November, came from travel in Turkey, where she has ancestral roots.



Submitted photo

Salyna's favored medium, encaustic painting, involves multiple layers of fused beeswax, resin and pigment, artfully displayed here. Originally attracted by collage, in her 25 years as a visual artist Salyna has developed new ways of layering different media into her paintings.

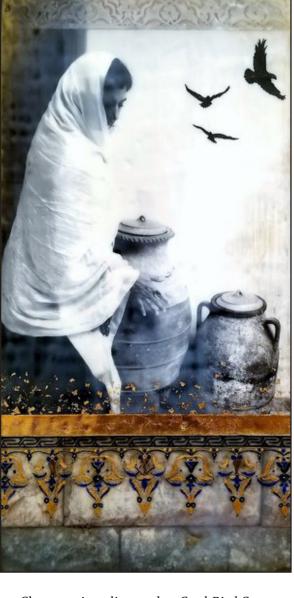
There she explored sacred, ancient sites and said, "The energy, the marking of time, the lost communities, are all infused in the narrative ... the divine feminine lives in these landscapes."

Salyna's life, like her encaustic medium and her spiritual-

ity, has its own rich layers. She was born and raised in New York, and after working in Washington, D.C., traveled west on the infamous Green Tortoise "hippy bus." Now a 30-year Methow Valley resident, at 55 she's the mom of a grown daughter.

Her careers have segued and sometimes overlapped — each shining light on the other? — from financial consulting to specialty baking to Middle Eastern dance, from teacher to arts administrator (four years as executive director of Twisp's Confluence Gallery) to poet and, for the last dozen years, multimedia visual artist.

Salyna's collages and encaustic paintings are exhibited across the Pacific Northwest and published in art books and poetry anthologies, and dozens hang in her home and the homes of patrons in the region. Currently her work



is online on her Soul Bird Studio website and exhibited at the Confluence Gallery and at the Methow Valley Jewelers Collective, both in Twisp.

Her house is in a quiet neighborhood, and her art studio above the gallery on the main street is a nearby stroll. Salyna's daily work circle may have a small radius, but her rigorous artistic reach is far and fascinating, and it fills her life. She planning to travel more with longer stays, gather more collaborators, create larger paintings.

An artist always and in all ways, Salyna said, "I don't feel right in myself unless I'm creating something ... dance, writing, visual art. It feels like I didn't eat good food or drink clean water or get enough sleep ... like I'm missing something essential for my wellbeing."



Story by Linda Reid Photos by Ken Reid Paulina Peak (more than 8,000 feet) is in the Caldera Area of the Newberry National Volcanic Monument.

If you read my story about our week-long travels from Wenatchee to Bend in last month's edition of "The Good Life," I promised a continuation of our early June travels, beginning where I left off at Maryhill. Whether you read it or not, I invite you to come along with us we head into Oregon.

Day Three: A three-hour journey brought us from the bridge over the Columbia at Maryhill to the high desert of central Oregon. Our campground was about 20 miles south of Bend. Although this was high desert, our drive through Bend was met with a thunderstorm and soaking rain that reminded us of driving across the causeway in Tampa, Fla., during a tropical storm.

Coincidentally, we experienced

unpredictable heavy thundershowers, either as a constant threat or a reality, for most of our four days. The rain lulled us to sleep at night in our cozy trailer and woke us up in the mornings. Sunbreaks made our hearts soar and kept us hopeful for better weather ahead.

**Day Four:** We were determined to persevere and revisit places we love in the Newberry Volcanic National Monument.

We especially enjoyed the Caldera Area, where we had tentcamped a decade ago. However, most of the areas we planned to visit were not open yet due to the cold, wet spring. The elevation there is over 5,000 feet and snow still blocked many roads. We did find a lovely snow-free campsite on the shores of Paulina Lake and had a picnic during one of the much-appreciated sun breaks.

Driving up the road to Paulina Peak, with its 8,000-foot panoramic views, wasn't possible, nor could we take our favorite hike out to the obsidian flow area, since the trail was still laden with snow. We embraced the changes in our plans and drove to the top of the always inspiring Lava Butte at a lower elevation of the national monument.

In the evening, we drove into Bend for dinner at the historic Pine Tavern along the Deschutes River. It has always been a highlight for us in our previous trips to the area. First opened in 1936, it came highly recommended by my Aunt Pat and Uncle Joe, who both loved this restaurant. Back at camp, the rain pattered and dripped from the Lodgepole and Ponderosa pines on our trailer's rooftop all through the night, once again.

Day Five: We woke to glorious fog which often brings the promise of sun. We moved quickly to pack up, fold down, and hook up our portable home on two wheels and head for the High Desert Museum, just a few miles south of Bend. This nationally acclaimed natural history museum has outdoor exhibits where you can observe birds and other high desert animals. This is the 40th anniversary year for this one-of-a-kind, not-to-be-missed, living museum.

We happened to time our arrival perfectly to watch an im-



The drive, or hike, to the top of Lava Butte provides breathtaking, panoramic views of the entire area. There is an active fire lookout at the summit. (Linda's to the right, studying up!)

pressive demonstration called "Raptors of the Desert Sky," an exhibition that can't be believed except when you are an eyewitness to it. These birds of prey live in the surrounding natural area but have been trained so museum visitors can observe them to help them better appreciate their abilities and the contributions these birds make to the balance of the natural world.

We were privileged to watch several birds demonstrate their intelligence and expert flying: the turkey vulture (who is able to smell its dead prey a mile away, nicknamed "nature's recyclers"), the Swainson's hawk (a sagebrush dweller eating small mammals in the high desert then migrating to Argentina for the winter and changing its diet to eating only insects), and the fastest living creature on earth, sky-diving for prey at 200 mph, the spectacular peregrine falcon.

The museum does not put these birds on display to entertain, but to inspire visitors with the beauty of nature and to encourage us all to become bird watchers and bird advocates.

We visited all the outdoor exhibits, including the river otters, who knew they were there to educate and entertain us. Indoor exhibits provided fascinating stories and displays on the interaction of people (Native Americans

and pioneers) with the high desert plateaus. These plateaus include areas of British Columbia and eight Western states. (The High Desert Museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian. For more information go to highdesertmu seum.org.)

**Day Six:** Yesterday afternoon, we moved to a campground in the small town of Sisters, just 20 miles



After a hip replacement, this little desert fox was unable to be released back into the wild and became the unofficial ambassador for the High Desert Museum.

An up close and personal look at one of the stars of "Raptors of the Desert Sky."



northwest of Bend. It maintains its charming Western heritage and sits at the foot of the Three Sisters mountain peaks, just north of Mount Bachelor.

It was raining for our first morning in Sisters (were we surprised?), but we knew there was a local Sunday farmers market, so we put on our rain jackets and opened our umbrellas to join in the community event. Suddenly, and to everyone's delight, the rain ceased, and the sun shone warm and bright. This dramatic change catapulted every vendor and every shopper into a sunny state of mind. We bought local wine, cards from an artist whose work inspired us, and some jars of pickled cauliflower and radishes. We enjoyed live music and watching local folks mingle with tourists.

Our next stop was to sample the wares of the nearby Crater Lake Distillery. The friendly welcome and warming spirits were appreciated until a strong gust of wind blew through the open door, knocking all our tasting samples right off the serving tray! (They were graciously replaced.) We thought the wind likely came as a warning that more rain was on its way.

Day Seven: Our last day, before heading north to retrace our steps back to Wenatchee, was spent in Bend so Ken could sample a few craft beers on the popular Bend Ale Trail. For me, it was a designated driver kind of day, although we did also enjoy a walk through the Old Mill District, which is now an upscale shopping area.

We returned to camp in Sisters to find everything had dried out, and we could cook and eat outside and even enjoy an evening campfire. It was the perfect way to end our days in central Oregon. Inclement weather always takes a backseat to the memories of unique experiences we have when we travel. As I have often said to the young campers in our family when the weather has been a bit disappointing, or when plans have been disrupted for assorted reasons: "It's the imperfect journeys that always make the best stories."



The Sunday farmers market in Sisters provided the residents and visitors a chance to mingle and shop for fresh produce and view the work of local artists.

Pickled beans, cauliflower, and radishes were one of our delicious purchases.



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Photo by Mike Irwin

Story by Susan Lagsdin

J. Woody Lotts has been at his post as executive director of the Numerica Performing Arts Center (PAC) for a year now. With a degree in arts leadership, he's also an actor by training and a confirmed collaborator by instinct.

# Leader of the PAC sees a future in creative teamwork

Woody Lotts has a massive office: It's basically all of downtown Wenatchee's Numerica Performing Arts Center (the PAC).

He was hired in the summer of 2021 as executive director just as the PAC opened its doors after COVID quarantines, and he remembers exploring the myriad interiors on his first days on the

job. Starting his second full year, he says he feels comfortably at home.

Perched on the edge of the balcony in the PAC's 600-seat auditorium, his favorite single spot in the building, Woody (yes, call him that) thinks he's naturally drawn there. He said, "My first time ever in a theater, 9 years old, I sat way up in the balcony for a

David Cassidy concert. It was so cool!"

The theater bug bit hard. By junior high, he'd played the Cowardly Lion in "The Wizard of Oz" and Long John Silver in "Treasure Island," but then wrestling and football, not drama, dominated his Parker, Ariz., high school years. Woody thinks it was a three-day glut of movies at the

Phoenix Film Festival, a junior year gift from his mother, that reignited his love of theater arts.

"I loved movies, loved hanging out at Video Depot." At college in Yuma, video production grabbed him, with his TV series "Dorm Cuisine" receiving regional acclaim. Then, almost accidentally,

Woody auditioned for and won an on-stage role in "Taming of the Shrew." He said, "That was it. Two weeks later, I was a theater major."

And that has made all the difference. In the 14 ensuing years Woody acted in, directed or produced theatrical productions from Arizona to Peru (including casting all 556 students of International Colegio Lord Byron in "Alice in Wonderland"), to Seattle and Wenatchee.

He completed a B.A. degree in acting, with his culminating production a multi-character solo performance, an art form that continues to intrigue him. Then an M.A. degree in arts leadership from Seattle University led him to work as the tour manager for Book-It Repertory Theatre.

Woody, 35, still revels in his good fortune and said, "That period from 2006 to 2018 I was finally able to leave behind the food service industry," referenc-

ing years of table-waiting, the artists' go-to income stream. He also credits the advice and support of his mentors in the field for prompting his own good decisions.

He was taking a breather from theater work as project manager for a cabinetry company — learning street-smart business practice and honing his management skills — when in May of 2021 a friend suggested he apply for the PAC opening. Interviews and handshake events went well, and Woody and his wife became new admirers of Wenatchee.

"The desire for art is definitely very strong in this community," Woody said of his first impressions. "And the adage I repeated, 'If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together,' seemed to resonate well." By August he was on the job as executive director, aided and abetted at first by a small staff in the just-reopened theater. Teamwork was

essential, and teamwork worked.

After those 15 months with its doors shut tight, the PAC took off with a roar, and Woody was right there in the driver's seat for productions of "Hot August Nights: Songs Stripped Down," a review from past musicals; "Courtyard Comedy," and "Mamma Mia," which played to 3,600 people in its successful run.

The PAC is now at a booming 80 percent of its pre-pandemic audience numbers, and Woody said, "This fiscal year, from August to July, we've seen people from 15 states and 20 countries in the theater."

But this isn't just a tourist draw; he wants it to be a vibrant hometown cultural hub.

And Woody wants the board of directors, the community, and his staff to be full and equal partners in the PAC's success. Part of his daily work is to be in town meeting business people, listening to the interests of art lovers

and supporters who live here, increasing visibility and viability.

Another personal mission, one gleaned from his past theater experience, is increasing equity, diversity and inclusion onstage and in the audience. And always, as with any arts organization, there's a balance to be kept at the PAC.

Woody described keeping art and money in sync, a delicate dance of forward-thinking programming and life-supporting donations.

The PAC is back, and the upcoming (Aug. 3-13) production of the musical "Pippin" should signal the start of another good year. As he does for every opening of every show, Woody will let himself into the balcony high above the main stage. He'll have a mental to-do checklist, and he'll scan the density of the crowd below, but he'll also be pulled, as he was long ago, into the magnetic magic of theater.

## Getting Green

Story by Susan Sampson

Decades ago, I heard the poet John Ciardi commenting on the word "pink." I remember only two details: "Pinks" are fragrant little flowers in the carnation family and "to pink" is to cut fabric into a zig-zag pattern by using pinking shears. Copying Ciardi, I started listing uses of "green."

Green means new. It's greenhorns. It's unripe: What's green when it's red? A blackberry. Green wine hasn't finished fermenting and aging in the cask or bottle. It sends bubbles up your nose when it shouldn't. It's certainly no French champagne or Italian prosecco.

Green may be a gift from God. Bobby Russell wrote, "If that ain't lovin' you/then God didn't make the little green apples/and it don't rain in Indianapolis/in the summertime."

Green is the color in the middle of the spectrum: Red, orange yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. Make green from yellow and blue — it's a child's first discovery of the magic in mixing colors. Bob Ross used Phthalo green to adorn his oil paintings of "happy little trees."

Nile green, a foggy or creamy-colored green, was popular in fabrics from the 1930s. Unfortunately, greens from that era often were "fugitive greens;" escaping, fading away, leaving a bland tan footprint behind.

Artists and fashionistas have borrowed their greens from food, like lime green — popular in Jell-O salad containing shredded green cabbage and sliced green olives from the 1950s — reappearing in the pop colors of fabrics straight from Carnaby Street in London in the 1960s, in shifts to wear with white go-go boots. Green found its way into psychedelic design, but somehow, the late 1960s gave us dull avocado green to pair with harvest gold in our appliances, upholstery and drapes.

Greens from the greengrocer are spinach, beet leaves and collards. You can catch their aromas if you walk through certain neighborhoods on spring evenings, where they are steaming, mixing aromas with smells of fresh-caught fish frying, playing against the backdrop of warm, burbling and laughing voices.

A dad recites "Green Eggs and Ham" for the umpteenth time to a giggling kid.

Greens grow, but It's folk etymology that "Gringo" is a mis-

heard interpretation of "green grow the lilacs/and green is their hue," sung around the campfires during the Mexican-American War. In fact, its etymology is believed by some to be related to the Romani people of Spain, via "peregringo," "peregrine," "wayfarer," "stranger."

Green beans were "string beans" until the 1950s, when hybridizing eliminated the string. Some string beans were put up with salt, dill and cayenne to make dilly beans. It's a popular recipe, but I'm doing something wrong. I've never made good dilly beans.

A family friend worked on hybridizing green beans while he attended Oregon State. He was welcome to take home all the green beans he could eat, and that helped his food budget — but soon he swore that once he graduated and had a salary, he'd never eat another green bean again for the rest of his life.

Fried green tomatoes appear in Southern cuisine, a Fanny Flagg

**>>>** Continued on page 15

### How to get Really Rich; and Super Thin

"All any of us wanted, really, was to know that we counted. That someone else's life would not have been as rich without us here."

- Jodi Picoult, *Handle with Care* 

Story by June Darling

oanie makes \$30,000 a year doing work that she finds meaningful. She has three strong friendships and laughs a whole lot more than she worries. Is Joanie living a good life? Is Joanie a good person? Do you desire to live a life like Joanie's?

This scenario and these questions are like those posed by researchers who want to know more about what regular folks (rather than philosophers, theologians, and psychologists) consider "good" — what they believe "the good life" to be.

As it turns out regular folks think money is nice, but after the basics are covered, money is five times less important than happiness to those surveyed.

But even then, happiness turns out not to be the biggest marker of a good life. What regular folks consider to be six times more important than money is having meaning and purpose in life. If we really want to journey to the good life, then spending more of our time becoming affluent in meaning and purpose is paramount. Oops. That can make a lot of us nervous. Finding our purpose or creating more meaningful lives may have never worked for us.

I knew one miserable man who paid thousands of dollars to go around the world to engage in a process which told him what his purpose was. He was elated when he returned, "I like to help people!" he gushed with enthusiasm. Huh.

Really, it isn't funny. It does hurt when everyone is saying you need more meaning and purpose and you agree, but you can't do it. Feeling like you want meaning and purpose and not being able to find it is pain-

According to Dr. Michael Steger, one of the top gurus and researchers in the field of meaning and purpose, some of the capacity for finding

meaning and purpose is related to our genetics and some to our nurturing, like most of our capacities. Steger seems to endorse this idea for some people who are having difficulty finding meaning and purpose. Just get active, get busy doing something helpful for others.

There are many other approaches. For example, one of the typical approaches is to notice what you already do and think about the most noble spin you can put on it. Remember the oft quoted story of the three bricklayers? There are many different variations online. Here's

Supposedly, the famous English architect Christopher Wren, in 1671, observed three bricklayers. They were all essentially doing the same thing of laying bricks, but they seemed to have a very different attitude toward their work which was shown even in how they held their

When Wren asked one bricklayer what he was doing he replied, "I'm a bricklayer. I'm working hard laying bricks to feed my family." The second one replied differently, "I'm a builder, I'm building a great wall." The third replied, "I'm building a great Cathedral to the Almighty."

That bricklayer story has been used a lot to help us see whatever we are doing with new eyes. Some may see their dental assistant job as a spit sucker while others may see it as providing comfort and improving another's life.

We may argue that some jobs are more inherently meaningful, but researchers say that's not the case. Some janitors ("I'm helping to heal people") find as much meaning or more in their work as some doctors ("I'm making decent money so I can retire early").

Maybe how we see our jobs is a choice to some degree. However, I can tell you from experience working with others who seemed to have fabulous jobs but could find no

meaning in them that this hurt most of all (people telling them they had great jobs, but the work felt meaningless, and they could not change how they viewed it).

Another way people have found more meaning in their work is to craft it to themselves in some way. For example, there's a popular story about a grocery bag boy, Johnny, who created more meaning for himself and quite a sensation where he worked by putting in his own thought for the day in the groceries he was bagging. People would wait in line while other cashiers were open and twiddling their thumbs. The customers wanted to see what Johnny had written.

There are easy ways to experiment with meaning like talking to strangers, learning new skills, taking care of a plant. I do believe many of us can figure out a way to find meaning and purpose even under difficult circumstances if we are creative. I watched my dad.

At the age of 49, my father had a serious heart attack which compromised his capability but increased the intensity of his desire for meaning. He thought about what he could do to contribute to others' lives. Here's what he decided to do.

Dad had a large church directory of local people which listed their phone numbers as well as their birthdays. Every evening he called birthday folks, acknowledged the importance of the day, and encouraged them; sometimes he sang. Though my father was given less than a year to live after his heart attack, his birthday mission lasted for 30 years. At his funeral many people told me with tears in their eyes how much they looked forward to my dad's call and would miss it.

We may seek a bigger 401K, new toys, and more exotic vacations. All that may be just fine if we remember our true turn on — what really makes us feel alive and rich, doing something worth our while. Usually, it involves



helping others in our own way which is some combination of what we care about/find interesting/fun, what we can do, and what we think others want or need. It is a bit ironic that the way we feel most significant is often by using ourselves to transcend ourselves and connect to something larger than ourselves.

And finally, about getting super thin. Don't eat. Well, really it might work out that while we are doing meaningful things, we aren't bored and feeling empty — scavenging for food to fill the vacuum. Both my husband and I have noticed that we lose weight when we are doing work that feels "meaning full."

It is doubtful that we ever know the full impact we have had on others, the small things that we did or are doing that make others' lives better, richer. We would have to attend our own funeral. Imagining it, however, may add some meaning or guidance now.

How you move up to the good life by becoming more affluent in meaning?

Hello Good Life readers, my husband, John and I have recently begun a new non-profit adventure called "Journey to The Good Life: Following the Way of Compassion."

Part of this project will result in a book. You can help me write the book by going to our website: journeytothegoodlife.net and subscribing. When I write a new article, it will be delivered straight to your inbox; hit reply with your comments, which will come directly to me. Or you could read an article or two and send me a message through the contact page. (My 14-year-old granddaughter, who designed the website, thinks you should get a good life certificate after reading 10 articles and giving comments. Maybe. Or maybe you can just help me write the book for fun.)

GREEN — From page 13 ▶▶▶

novel and a Kathy Bates movie.

Americans don't eat "green fish" that is too old for the domestic market. An acquaintance sells it to the Japanese, who ferment it for fish sauce and who relish it.

Green is dangerous. Soylent Green is food made from human bodies, at least in the movies. That makes you feel green around the gills. An evil queen wears poison green. Jealousy is "the green-eyed monster" that Shakespeare's evil, evil Iago invokes to bring our hero Othello to his tragic end. Alien invaders are little green men. Peter Pain was the green villain in magazine ads in the 1950s. He was an old demon with a curved spine, long feet in pointed elf shoes, and a three-day stubble of beard. He inflicted pain until he was vanquished by Ben-Gay liniment. Later, Apple Bonkers from "The Yellow Submarine" threw apples, probably green Newtown Pippins and Granny Smiths.

Peter Pain was a bad guy, but Peter Pan, his costume as green as a Girl Scout's uniform, didn't try to be naughty, he was just mischievous. (Many Finnish names end with "anen" Do you know what's green and flies over Finland? That would be Peter Pananen.)

Sawmills use the green chain to convey lumber from the blades for sorting by size and quality. It's largely automated now, but old-timers remember their first jobs pulling lumber from the green chain.

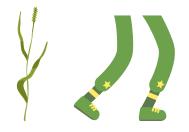
Green is literary. Hemingway wrote "The Green Hills of Africa." Richard Llewelleyn wrote "How Green Was My Valley" which became a notable John Ford movie. Tom Jones sang, "The green green grass of home," about a doomed man facing execution; the padre awaits him.

Green is precious emeralds from Colombia. Green is semiprecious peridot crystals, abundant in the green sands of the Big Island of Hawaii. Don't take home a sample, though: You will anger Pele, the goddess of volcanoes.

"Greenies" are environmentalists, perhaps eschewing the pursuit of greenbacks to hug trees. Perhaps by night they watch a full moon resembling a green cheese and look into the deep sky and ponder the role of ancient blue-green algae (nowadays called cyanobacteria) in generating the life forms that brought us here today.

Green is ambitious. It's the

green light that says "Go!" because the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. Where will it take us next?



If this essay makes you think of green (for me it's Timothy Hay and leprechaun trousers), feel free to leave a comment with me at: jclaypoole@omak chronicle.com.

All comments, ideas, and green ideas will be shared with the author, Susan Sampson, at her request!

— The Editor

### A Long History in a Pot of Tea

Story by Sue Blanchard

I am an avid collector of the past — of every precious find — imagining the lifelines and relationships that connect an item of antiquity to the family that once used and cherished it long before it was passed on. Whether a hand-me-down, estate sale treasure, or bargain basement buy, every long-ago collectible has a story of living history to share — its voice hidden only by the patina of time.

Curiosity is my constant companion on these adventures down memory's lane, always prompting me to question and research, as best I can, and to answer the "who-what-where-when-and-why" of each new piece, so that I may become a deserving caregiver of someone else's past.

I discovered this early 1900s teapot at an estate sale organized by the family of "Maria" who, prior to her passing, had amassed, stored and cherished every possession of her life in

America. You see, Maria survived unspeakable hardships during the Nazi occupation of Austria during World War II and had lost so much. After the war, she married, immigrated to our Wenatchee Valley, and commemorated both her past and more fortunate future by cherishing each and every one of her keepsakes — holding on to them as dearly as she embraced life.

Maria and I had known one another in the community of collectors for more than 40 years. This seemingly simple teapot was the treasure I chose to remember her by — a \$2 keepsake more precious than the price.

And, as I was to discover, its value would soon increase beyond measure.

Once home, dutifully dusting the teapot's patina, I noted that its weight was much heavier than needed be. In turning it over in my hand, I unexpectedly discovered what appeared to be a small inscription beneath a well-worn



Photo
by Sue
Blanchard
The tea pot
and subject
of this story,
wonderfully
framed at
the table
with a tea
cup, plate,
and bouquet.

etching, stamped on one side of the belly of the pot. Aha! I grabbed my magnifying glass to examine both more closely, and they provided the first clues for my predictable research — an adventure in the making!

This particular Reid & Barton

**>>>** Continued on page 20

Story by Susan Lagsdin Photos by Mike Irwin

Wenatchee builder Chase Cooper figured he could handle all 50 of his 14th Street Townhomes rentals by himself. But this spring he admitted frankly, "I realized I was in way over my head."

Chase, who co-owns C&C Investment properties, has purchased and managed rental homes over the past 10 years, so he felt confident when the first phase of his current apartment development in East Wenatchee neared completion. But soon the idea of marketing, showing, and tracking lease agreements for even the first few residents was intimidating.

Melissa Bohart, designated broker at Herring and Associates, has worked at the company for sixteen years and knows the ins and outs of the rental market. This April, sensing a good combo when they saw it, Chase and Melissa, with their separate but equal skills, teamed up to make the new townhomes immediately available.

Along with many counterparts throughout the region, each of them is involved in a "helping profession," not medicine, counseling or teaching, but one is constructing good houses and the other makes it easy for people to find and enjoy them.

Chase has built two developments recently, one with single family homes, one with sharedwall condominiums. The current rental units share similar qualities, but their hillside location allowed multilevel structures.

He keeps his three, small permanent crews busy, with long-time employees specializing in ground prep and foundation, drywall, and interior finishing. He does subcontract the framing and says he's worked with the same team for the last decade. Chase praised their professionalism. "I know they may go slower than some, but that's OK, be-



Framing each row of townhomes takes about six months. Pictured here is the second 10-home tier, and the long-time building crews are on schedule preparing the foundations for succeeding units.

## Two housing pros make moving in a simple process

cause they're very good."

These past few years the challenge has been to keep employees' wages competitive, thereby keeping continuity in his crews. He also needs to assure the availability, sometimes by stockpiling, of hard-to-get appliances, cabinets, doors, and window treatments.

He says he's on the ground at the job site(s) by 7 a.m. daily to monitor progress or check trouble spots, while afternoon office time is spent at the computer examining proposed plans as well as bids, bills and budgets.

Chase is looking toward one more home development in Wenatchee that will overlap with the completion of this one; his other projections bring him up to retirement in 10 years, at age 45. "Then I might want to build a house or two," he said, "Just for fun."

Melissa, who started at Herring as a part-time leasing agent, worked up from office manager to licensed broker eight years ago. And she says she's in the field for the long haul. She was enrolled in nursing school but happily changed careers after a short time with the company. "It was a good switch for me," she said, adding, "Besides, I really couldn't stand the sight of blood."

There's little trauma in property management, but she does enjoy the variety of close one-on-one helping relationships she's built in the business. Melissa's busy most days showing homes (for rent and for sale), overseeing applications and leases, talking

with owners and tenants and dealing with work orders.

She said her company tries hard to keep all their clients' properties, whether high end or more affordable, safe and secure for residents.

As a corollary, she has three items of admittedly optimistic advice to any renter: 1. Follow the rules on the contract you signed 2. Treat the home as if it were your own 3. If there's a problem, communicate soon and civilly. (Note: owners of rental units could probably use the same advice.)

The 14th Street Townhomes are one-fifth completed, and the renters are coming. Five buildings of ten units each will soon fill



Chase Cooper, the owner/builder, and Melissa Bohart, of property management firm Herring & Associates, formed a new professional team for this project. They're seen here in one of the two big upstairs rooms in the model unit.

the sloping hillside above Sunset Highway. The first tier is finished and rented, and the second tier, which should be move-in ready in early November, has two confirmed residents and frequent inquires.

It's visibly obvious that open space in the region, much of it former orchards, is rapidly being developed into housing units. This is a truth of our times, but it helps when a group of just-built homes fits comfortably into the existing landscape.

Though their newness is still raw, these apartments' immediate appeal is apparent to passersby. They see a residential neighborhood rimmed with trees, tasteful colors and design, double garages, big balconies, a paved drive, and proximity to town and the Apple Capital Loop Trail.

What's inside each 1,305 square-foot unit is just as alluring: quality elements and interior finishes (above-grade appliances, quartz counters, luxury vinyl flooring, crown molding, wide Venetian blinds), plentiful light, three bedrooms and 2.5 baths on



Provided photo

The living area of the 1,302 square-foot apartment gains dimension with west-facing windows and sliding doors to the full-width balcony. A primary suite on the main floor, away from traffic, gets morning sunlight.



two levels, plus heaps of storage space.

The increase in monthly rent in Wenatchee (nationwide, a 14% jump since January) seems to mirror the tough homebuying market, and these townhomes are on the higher end of the scale, but Melissa said renting is still a sensible option.

She explained that some people are in transition after a home sale, renting temporarily while a new house is built or sought out. Others, new to a job or to the area, pay rent while they're waiting for prices to drop or they're saving for a down payment. Still others find that the lack of entanglement—a lease and no upkeep—simply suits their age, stage or lifestyle better than home ownership.

A few of the 14th Street Townhomes have families of four, a few are single folks, a few are couples. Melissa expects similar variety as the other units open up. "It's a real mix," She said, "Because there are so many different reasons for renting now."



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### Entiat the Beautiful

Story by Rod Molzahn

Consider this one of the choicest streams that flows into the Columbia anywhere in this whole area for the reason that there is scarcely any opportunity for pollution and its flow is very rapid. All along its banks for some 25 miles or more, some of the finest fruit orchards are to be found, irrigated by individual ditches taking water from the river and carried directly to the various orchard tracts."

John Gellatly wrote those words in 1958 to describe the Entiat Valley and river.

Formed by the melt water of an alpine glacier, the "V" shaped valley is narrow and heavily timbered, winding northwest from its confluence with the Columbia River for 57 miles. The Entiat Mountains line the valley to the southeast with the Chelan Mountains to the northwest. The Indian name for the river is Entiatqua. The word has been translated as "grassy water," also translated as "rapid water" or "rushing water." The second two much more accurately describe the true character of the river with its falls and narrow gorges.

The river rises from an alpine cirque cradled by three 9000-foot peaks: Mount Maude, Seven Fingered Jack, and Mount Fornow. The main branch of the Entiat River begins as runoff from the mountains and melt water from the Entiat Glacier in their midst. The stream meanders through the Entiat meadow before beginning its downhill plunge. About 20 miles from its source



Courtesy of Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center | Photo 76-43-1 A photo taken by B.C. Collier in 1895. 16 early pioneer men in the Wenatchee area posed around Entiat Chief Chilcosahaskt and wife Spokokalx. Back row left to right: J.J. "Jack" O'Connor, Thomas J. Graves, Bert McManus, George J. Miller, S.A. "Sandy" Chisholm, James L. Turner, A. Bert Courtway, William W. Lee, (Grant Percy or William Turner), John Freer, W.N. Pate, and Milton Ward. Front row from left: Dike Leonard, John "Jack" Lillis, Spo-ka-kalx (youngest wife of Entiat Chief Shilhohsaskt), Entiat Chief Silika Shilhohsaskt, Herman S. Simmons, Ed. S. Allyn.

the main branch is joined by the North Fork, with its source at the 6900-foot-high Fern Lake.

The river and its valley were home to the Entiat people. There were about 100 Entiatqua people living along the river in the 1880s. They occupied a permanent village just north of the river at its mouth along with a few small villages upriver for fishing and hunting. From the river they harvested Chinook salmon, steelhead and Dolly Varden trout. Even today one can stand on a bridge over the river and watch the salmon on their upriver push to spawn and the Dolly Varden trout following behind waiting

for a meal of salmon eggs.

The hills held berries and roots, deer and bear and spectacular wild flowers. Mushrooms pushed through the forest floor and goats lived in the rocky peaks. The people's tools, weapons, food, and clothing came from their valley.

The last Entiat Chief was Chilcosahaskt, 99 years old in 1887, the last of a family dynasty that had led the Entiat people for generations. His daughter, Quihnmeetsa, had married Franklin Freer of the Miller/Freer Trading Post at the Wenatchee/Columbia Confluence. When Franklin died, the girl, still in her teens, married Franklin's brother, David. In spite of that, and the grandchildren they gave to the chief, Chilcosahaskt was steadfast in his opposition to white people moving into his Entiat Valley. He had had trouble with white men before.

In 1883, Lewis Detwiler packed his wagon, hitched up his team and made a 20 day journey from Missoula, Montana to Badger Mountain where he spent the winter at Steven's sawmill on Plat Corbaly's ranch. In the spring, with the wagon box tied to the rear axel as a brake, he made his way down the steep hillside to the Columbia and claimed a homestead eight miles below Orondo. At that time, Orondo was several miles north of its present location

and directly across the Columbia from the mouth of the Entiat River.

He was joined there by his brother, John, John's wife and their two-year-old daughter, Annie. A year later, Lewis sold his homestead and with his brother, built a large rowboat to take the family and their belongings across the Columbia to become the Entiat Valley's first white settlers.

They landed at the mouth of the Entiat River. In a great fury, Chilcosahaskt met them at the bank and demanded that they

leave. The chief was so overwrought, it's said, that he foamed at the mouth. Detwiler ignored the old man and traveled three miles across road-less terrain up the Entiat where he claimed a homestead and built his cabin.

Chilcosahaskt later rode to the cabin armed with a rifle and demanded, again, that Detwiler leave. In a tussle, Detwiler got the chief's gun and sent him home. He was back soon with one of his sons, both armed. They got the best of Detwiler and forced him out of the valley. Detwiler walked to Wenatchee to see Dave Freer at the Miller/Freer store. He told Freer to tell his father-in-law that if he didn't stop bothering the settlers he, Detwiler, would buy 1,000 rounds of ammunition and shoot every Indian horse in the country. The threat was aimed especially at the chief. He prided himself on the fine horses he raised.

From then on Chilcosahaskt left Detwiler alone but turned his attention to other new settlers. Twenty Indians, including the chief, tried to move James Bonar out of the valley. Settler T.J. Cannon intervened and explained treaty law to Chilcosahaskt. The chief agreed to let Bonar alone if he let the Indians haul away a rail fence they had made. The Entiats had not signed the 1855 treaty and may not have had anyone at the treaty council. It's likely the terms of that treaty did not, legally, apply to them.

As more settlers came to the Entiat Valley in the next years the old chief mellowed and the trouble mostly ended. In time, Chilcosahaskt took an allotment of land at the mouth of the Entiat River and developed a horse and cattle ranch. In spite of white men who tried to force him off his land, he won out. According to Wendell George, Chilcosahaskt's great-grandson, the last



Courtesy of Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center | Photo 78-214-67 The youngest wife, Spokokalx (Rosalie), of and alongside Entiat Chief Shilhohsaskt (commonly rendered as Chilcosahaskt) around the year 1900. Photo is courtesy of Mr. Rex Kish, Cashmere.

chief of the Entiats, died on his ranch in 1903 at the age of 115.

James Bonar was 58 when he settled in the Entiat Valley in April of 1887, less that a month after Lewis Detwiler arrived. On September 27, 1892, at the age of 63, James Bonar went to drive stock out of his garden and died of a heart attack. The following mountain streams were named by Mr. Bonar: Roaring Creek, Mad River, Muddy Creek, Quartz Creek, Potato Creek and Tyee Creek.

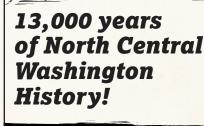
Sometime in the spring or summer of 1888, Charles Albert (C.A.) Harris built the first sawmill on the Entiat River. Logging became the first income producing business in the Entiat Valley. In 1892, C.A. Harris built another mill at the mouth of the Entiat River. The mill had one purpose; it produced large timbers for the bridge the Great Northern was building at Rock Island. The timbers from the Harris Mill were floated down the Columbia then captured and dragged ashore by Great Northern crews.

Most new settlements struggled to attract a doctor to their grow-

ing community. For many it took years. The homesteaders of the Entiat were fortunate. Dr. Eugene Mead and his wife came from Connecticut, by way of a short

stay in Medical Lake, Washington, and came to the Entiat country in 1889 and homesteaded 2 1/2 miles up the valley. The settlers of the Entiat Valley were so grateful that by September of that year J.C. Bonar and others had built a log house for the Meads. By October all their goods and supplies had been brought from Medical Lake to the new cabin and Dr. Mead was seeing patients, including local Indians. Seven years later, Dr. Mead fell ill with a kind of paralysis. He, with his wife and ten year old son, sold their homestead and returned to Connecticut.

By then, settlement in the Entiat Valley was slowing down. Farms and orchards dotted the valley and a town was taking shape on a rise just north of the mouth of the Entiat River. The town boasted a store, a post office, a school, a saloon, a church and electricity.



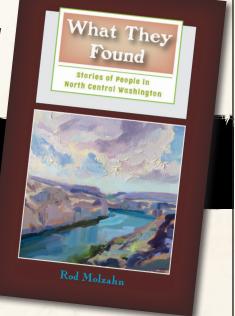
By The Good Life columnist **Rod Molzahn** 

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silver-soldered, insulated teapot was specially made in 1933 for the Parker House Hotel in Boston, Mass. Now for those of you who are not from the East Coast or of the Betty Crocker era, the Parker House is famous for its original Parker House Rolls (1870s) and inventing the iconic Boston Cream Pie (1856), which was honored as the official Massachusetts state dessert in 1996.

The original Parker House Hotel was built in 1855 and rebuilt in 1927, making it the longest continuously operating hotel in the US. The hotel was founded by Harvey D. Parker, a 20-year-old farm boy from Paris, Maine who arrived in Boston Harbor on a ship in 1825 with less than \$1 in his pocket. He died a millionaire in 1884.

In 1856, The Parker House became a monthly meeting spot of historians, scientists, philosophers and authors. Called "The Saturday Club," its notable members included Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Willa Cather and Edith Wharton (the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize, 1921). Here, it is purported that Longfellow drafted portions of "Paul Revere's Ride" and Charles Dickens gave his first American reading of "A Christmas Carol."

Guests who stayed at the Hotel in November of 1862 included Mary Todd Lincoln. Ironically, in 1864, John Wilkes Booth also met with his fellow Lincoln conspirators at the hotel to hatch a plan to kidnap President Lincoln.

Three cultural icons spent time serving on the Parker House staff. From 1912 to 1913, Ho Chi Minh — while expelled from Vietnam and French Indochina as a communist protestor — worked as a baker in the hotel's basement pastry kitchen.

Malcolm X worked as a busboy in the early 1940s during the period of the Pearl Harbor invasion. Working as a sous chef from 1979-81, our own Emeril Lagasse (Bam!) launched his own culinary career.



Photo by Sue Blanchard

The inscription, seen above, is faint from years of use and storage, though certainly still visible to the naked eye.

If only this teapot could talk! Or maybe, it did...

Although Maria can no longer travel back in time with her keepsake teapot, she preciously preserved it through her own lifetime so that others could reach back into history's timetold events, and listen to the voices of provenance.

### Walking the Cotswold Way

The Cotswolds is a place where the shops and homes look like they were painted with golden honey and dripped with roses and wisteria. A place with meadows full of cowslip and buttercups and bleating lambs. A place of history whether it be from the neolithic period, iron age, the Romans, the Saxons or the 19th century where craftspeople wanted a place outside of the big city to practice their trades.

The Cotswolds is an area in central southwest England designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), encompassing 787 square miles. Most of the buildings in the villages were built out of the local limestone which gives the villages their beautiful yellow color.



**Downtown Chipping Campden with market square.** 

Several years ago, I and three friends — all from the Wenatchee Valley — seized upon the notion of walking the Cotswold Way, a 103-mile footpath going from Chipping Campden in the north, south to the Bath. In August 2019, we booked a trip with a travel company that specializes in British Walking Tours (Mickledore), and we began training, walking the

Story and photos by Leslie Bigos

Apple Loop Trail and the many foothills and mountain trails in the Wenatchee Valley. Although the Cotswold Way is marked as moderately difficult, we had to get used to walking 10-14 miles a day as well as gaining elevation because many days we would gain and lose up to 1000' in elevation.

When the pandemic hit and there were lockdowns, we had to postpone the trip, but we felt safe with Mickledores as they were bonded. This year, we rebooked our trip, bought plane tickets, and on May 10, left for England.

Engaging a walking company like Mickledores meant that all of our accommodations were pre-booked. They included

country hotels, bed and breakfast inns, pubs and private homes. In addition, Mickledore arranged for our suitcases (one carry-on bag, each) to be picked up each day and moved to our next accommodation. All we had to think about was walking.

England has laws that govern footpaths, and many landowners allow people to walk across private land, so there is a history of permissive footpaths. Some of these footpaths date back hundreds, if not thousands, of years ago. To respect permission to cross private land, one should be mindful of closing gates and keeping dogs on leashes. The Cotswold Way path was established as a National Trail in the 1970s and is pretty well signposted along the way.

The walking was an absolute delight. Some of the paths were lined with flowers like Oueen Anne's lace and wild garlic. We enjoyed walking through pastures lined with blooming Hawthorn and full of sheep with the ewes and lambs bleating to one another. A "Bull in the Field" sign made us a bit nervous, but the bull was elsewhere that day. We also traversed several golf courses, one of which was hosting a tournament. Fortunately, the range master held up a Stop to temporarily halt play and allow us to cross the course. Avoiding large cities, we also



Views of farmland with Rapeseed in bloom.

walked through woodlands; atop the escarpment we took in wide ranging views.

We enjoyed staying in the old properties. In Winchcombe, we stayed in the Wesley House, a 15th century merchant house, where the proprietor's hospitality included a fire for us in the large Inglenook fireplace. In Old Sodbury, we stayed in a Grade II listed historic inn, the Dog Inn, which provided us a cozy place to socialize in the evenings and an entire menu devoted to gin.

We knew we wanted a "High Tea" experience while in England, so we chose The Painswick Hotel, an 18th century former vicarage. We had an enjoyable and leisurely tea on cozy couches in front of a roaring fire. The tea tray was sumptuous with Scotch eggs (duck eggs ensconced in herbs, ground sausage and a breading, then deep fried), and assorted sandwiches and pastries. We complemented the tea with a glass of prosecco.

Prior to going, some of us did quite a bit of reading about the Cotswolds, and we read a memoir by English author, Laurie Lee who grew up in a hamlet called Slad. On our "rest" day, inspired by his memoir "Cider with Rosie", we walked to Slad, paid homage to the writer at his grave, saw his home, and had a lovely lunch at his local pub where people still remember him.

Our Cotswold Way walk ended in the former Roman town, and UNESCO World Heritage Site, of Bath. Because of the thermal waters, the Romans built a spa at this location, which can be toured today. Bath was also a bustling town during the Georgian era and Jane Austen wrote "Persuasion" here. To treat ourselves and our weary bodies, we availed ourselves of the Thermae Spa, which is both old and new and has several thermal swimming pools using water from the same source that the Romans used. Floating in the rooftop pool was a welcome celebration to the end of the Cotswold Way.

If you've ever considered a walking vacation, a trip to the Cotswolds would certainly get one's feet wet.

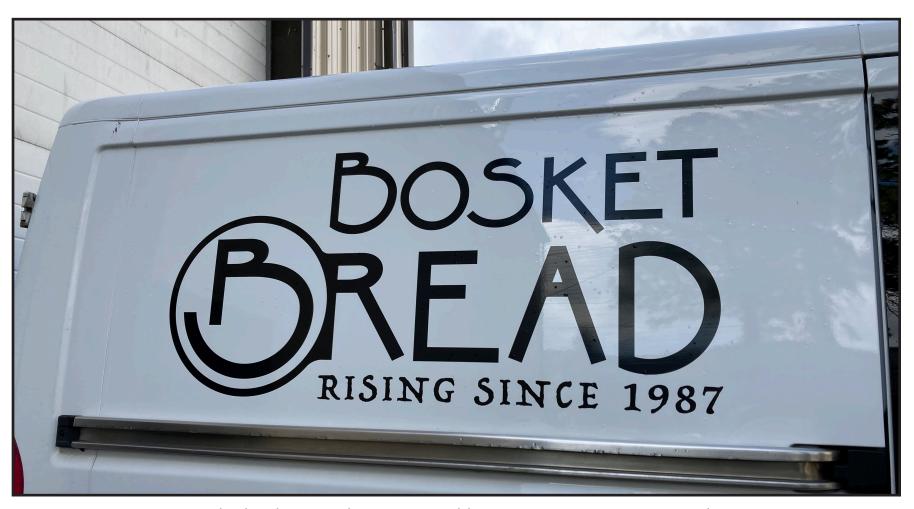




# Bosket bread will fill your breadbasket

From Sure to Rise to Bosket Bread

Story and photos by Barbara Washburn



One of the Bosket Bread brothers iconic white vans, which can be seen driving through Leavenworth nearly every single day.

Brothers Spencer and Riley
Bosket are delighted to
continue the family business.
You can see their white van cruising around town making deliveries to dozens of businesses in
Leavenworth and the neighboring areas.

Spencer and Riley, the owners of the Leavenworth wholesale bakery, never actually envisioned making a living in their father's family business; having been previously operated — under the name Sure to Rise — for 35 years in the city of Cashmere before being sold as a resale bakery. Back then, their father had also

delivered to many area restaurants himself. Therefore, it's a total of 38 years of bread-rising success for the Boskets.

"I never thought of becoming a baker," Spencer says. "I went to school for engineering, later owned my welding company, and also made a living in the commercial fishing industry." When he started his own family, he decided to make the move toward a solid and more family oriented income with a future.

He works side by side with his brother Riley, who manages the Leavenworth wholesale bakery business. At first it was just the two of them, but as their business grew, they added employees. Currently, they have five employees who are essentially working full time.

From time to time, their dad Vince stops in to help. Their parents only live about five miles away, in the same home the brothers grew up in. Their mom had helped in the Cashmere store and then started a floral business. She is still doing weddings today.

A baker's working hours are something you have to get used to. The team generally starts their day at 3:30 in the morning,

finishing by about 1 or 2 in the afternoon. Like many things, their schedule also changes with the seasons as the demand for bread and rolls generally goes up during the colder months of the year. And of course, during the seasons of festivities in Leavenworth, the request for their products increases enormously!

"Covid was a difficult time for the business," Riley said. "And of course, having to adjust to the increase in supply cost has been tough on us all." The family business is making it work and their baked merchandise continues to be in high demand.



Brothers Spencer, left, and Riley pullinh dough out of a mixing bowl. This dough, all 150 pounds of it, will be used for an order of bratwurst buns being delivered to the München House in Leavenworth later on.

The establishment is a treat in of itself to walk into, inviting you to inhale the heavenly scents of fresh baked bread. The city of Leavenworth and its surrounding area has many businesses that are always in need of fresh bread and the Bosket's reputation is already well established. Along with regular baked good like loaves and baguettes, they are also well known for their excellent cinnamon rolls. They are the only sweet thing the brothers bake and can be found at Dan's Market in Leavenworth.

The Bosket Brothers are proud of their supply line since local, home-made goods utilizing

fresh materials are always in high demand in their area. Everything they sell is made fresh, and they ferment just about all their breads with sourdough culture. He has invested in a lot of equipment, most of it imported from Italy. Good equipment is key, and Bosket states that production will move a lot smoother that way.

The bakery, which had started up in early 2019, is located off Chumstick Highway in Leavenworth and provides several dozen local area businesses with fresh bread. They can be contacted via email at:



Spencer Bosket getting the day's Ciabatta rolls ready for baking. It takes 25 minutes of baking at 450 degrees.





### FUN STUFF

#### WHAT TO DO AROUND HERE FOR THE NEXT MONTH

LINE DANCING at the Twisp Valley Grange, 334 W. Second Ave., every Monday at 6 p.m. Lessons available for beginners and advanced dancers. \$4 fee to participate. Call 509-429-2064 for more information.

**MOVEMENT MONDAYS** every Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Wenatchee Valley Museum, 127 S. Mission St. \$10 per child, caregivers free. Did you know music and dance can help with the development of math skills? Recommended for children pre-K through second grade. Visit wenatcheevalleymuseum.org to register.

**CHESS CLUB** every second Tuesday at 4 p.m., all online. Event is free, registration is available on ncwlibraries.org; Zoom link provided in email after registration.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT** at The Local Granola in Oroville, 1408 Main St., every Tuesday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Open mic, open jam, and karaoke night! Bring your own instrument, do phone karaoke, bring your best stand-up bit or perform a skit! Dinner available by donation.

**ONE MILLION CUPS** is an entrepreneur showcase on the first Wednesday of each month. Register on wenatchee.org to attend.

**NCW WRITERS CLUB** every third Wednesday of the month from 4-5 p.m., optional social hour to follow. Please visit ncwlibraries.org for more information. Workshop is completely free and open to all skill levels and ages.

**SHRUB-STEPPE POETRY PODIUM** on the last Friday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

at the Collapse Gallery in Wenatchee, 115 S. Wenatchee Ave. Come read your original poem or a favorite of yours by a beloved poet. For more info, email sfblair61@gmail.com.

**ZOOM STORYTIME** every Thursday at 9:30 a.m., except holidays. Visit ncwlibraries. org for information and to register. Join librarians Clare and Dawn for a half-hour of stories, songs and movement for preschool-aged children.

**RECREATION NIGHT** at the Teen Center in Twisp, 502 S. Glover St., every Friday from

4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Ping pong, video games, Wi-Fi, dinner and a movie, all free.

FREESTYLE DANCE at The Studio in Twisp, 101 N. Glover St., every Friday at 5:45 p.m. \$5 fee to participate. Call 509-996-2017 for more information.

**BOOKMOBILE** at multiple locations and dates courtesy of NCW Libraries. Locations include Methow, Omak, 97 Rock House, Valleyhi, Crescent Bar, Loomis, Aeneas Valley, Wilson Creek, Chesaw, Cashmere, Plain, Orient, Malaga, Inchelium, Colockum Ridge, Keller, Nespelem, Orondo and more. More dates may be available later in the month. Check www. ncwlibraries.org for updates.

**SUMMER CAMPS** at the Wenatchee River Institute, 347 Division Street, in Leavenworth throughout August. All camps are pay what you can. Camp themes/subjects include Rock On! (entering grades 4-6), Amazing Artists (entering grades 1-3), and possibly more. Visit wenatcheeriverinstitute.org for more information and to register. The first camp begins Aug. 1.

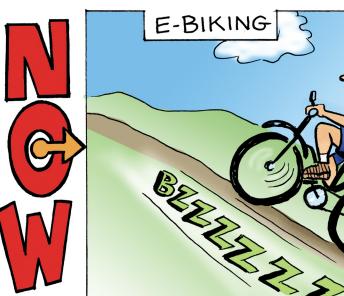
**SUMMER MUSIC SERIES** at the Leavenworth Ski Lodge. Aug. 3 – End of the Line, Aug. 10 - Chris Ward, Aug. 17 -Kristen Marlo, Aug. 24 - Penstock, Aug. 31 – Eric Link. Visit skileavenworth.com/events for more information and updated dates.

FUN, FUN, AND MORE FUN

Allend the individuality







throughout the month of August with events hosted and sponsored by NCW Libraries. Activities include craft days, story times, movie nights, projects, book walks, and more. Visit ncrl.evanced.info/ signup/list for more information on events, activities, dates, and registration.

THE WA STATE PARKS' FOLK AND TRADITIONAL ARTS **PROGRAM** will run through August, reprising two of its beloved concert series this summer at Deception Pass and Cape Disappointment state parks. The program also added a third series at Lake Wenatchee State Park, expanding free access to diverse musical traditions in Central Washington. Waikiki Beach Concert Series, 7-8 p.m., Cape Disappointment State Park: Aug. 13 – Ian McFeron, Aug. 27 - Miho & Diego. Mountain Melodies Concert Series, 8-9 p.m., Lake Wenatchee State Park: Aug. 13 – Eclectic Cloggers, Aug. 27 – Penstock Bluegrass Band. American Roots Concert Series, 7-8 p.m., Deception Pass State Park at North Beach Ampitheater: Aug. 6 - Seattle Steel Pan Project, Aug. 13 – Shifty Sailors, Aug. 20 - Schmid & Guest, Aug. 27 Mount Vernon High School Mariachi & Folklorico. All performances are free. A Discover Pass is required for vehicle access to parks. All event information can be found on the Folk & Traditional Arts Program website. The Folk and Traditional Arts Program also presents a full lineup of cultural festivals including the Skandia Midsommarfest.

**HOT AUGUST NIGHTS** will run August 4-6 and 9-13 at 7:30 p.m. along with 1:30 p.m. times on August 6 and 13. Tickets on sale now at numericapac.org or at the Numerica PAC Box Office, same location as shows, 123 N Wenatchee Avenue, in Wenatchee. Hot

August Nights has been a staple during the summer months at the Numerica PAC since its debut in 2013 with the Rocky Horror Show.

LAKE OSOYOOS WATER-**CROSS RACES** in Oroville Aug. 2-4. Watercross racing and freestyle return to Deep Bay Park for the annual, international Lake Osoyoos Cup. Camping/practice open Friday, Aug. 2. Competition is Saturday and Sunday. Tentatively, the event includes vendors and an adjacent beer garden and music.

#### SUPER SUMMER ADVENTURE

**CAMPS** with Wenatchee Valley Museum throughout August. Join us for Super Summer Adventure Camps. We offer weekly enrichment classes for kids with a wide variety of classes for students entering K-6 grades in the Fall of 2022. Visit wenatcheevalleymuseum.org/super-summer-adventures-summercamp/

**OMAK STAMPEDE** including the World Famous Suicide Race and Rodeo, Aug. 10-14 at the Omak Stampede Arena, in Eastside Park in Omak. Enjoy live music, a carnival, vendors, exhibits and four days of nonstop rodeo action and Suicide Races.

ALL OF CREATION art exploration for kids at Pybus Public Market, 3 N Worthen Street, in Wenatchee Aug. 11-13. "All of Creation" helps children "explore and create" various forms of art through several different art mediums. Stations include: watercolors, abstracts, sculpture and recycled art, poetry, photography, and more. This year, photography classes will be limited to older students 10 and up. Registration required, visit pybuspublicmarket.org for more.

FIRST FRIDAY artist spotlight at Two Rivers Gallery, 102 N Columbia Street, in Wenatchee on August 5 from 5 to 8 p.m. Albert Kissler, with acrylic work, is this month's featured artist. Music will be by Patric Thompson on bass and Glenn Isaacson on piano. Wines provided by Archibald James.

#### PANGBORN'S FESTIVAL OF

**FLIGHT** returns on August 6. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., after two years of cancellations due to COVID. Formerly known as Aviation Days, the event will take place at Pangborn Memorial Airport, 1 Pangborn Drive, in East Wenatchee. Join the community for a new, family friendly, community event! Visit eastwenatcheewa.gov/346/Pangborns-Festival-of-Flight

**GNOME TREASURE HUNT** in Cashmere on Aug. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join the Chamber of Commerce for a day of family friendly fun, hunting for gnomes in downtown Cashmere. Locate all treasure chests and return to the info booth with a completed map for your treasure! All maps will be entered into a Grand Prize Giveaway. Visit cashmerechamber.org/events for more information.

**ALOHA FRIDAYS** featuring Wenatchee Hula at Pybus Public Market, 3 North Worthen Street, in Wenatchee. August's date is set for Friday the 12th, 3-5 p.m.

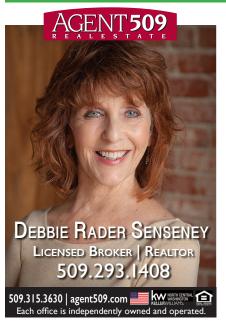
#### FREE TOMATO TASTING on

August 20 from 10 a.m. to noon at the WSU Chelan/ Douglas Master Gardeners' 12th Annual Tomato Gala at their Community Education Garden, on the NW corner of Western and Springwater Avenues, in Wenatchee, Master Gardeners donate tomatoes. and you get to taste test a great selection of heirlooms, hybrids, paste and cherry types. Armed with a ven for fresh tomatoes, a ballot and pencil, visitors choose their favorites. Winning varieties are published the following week in The Wenatchee World.

#### **TONASKET GARLIC FEST** on

Aug. 26 and 27 from noon to 8 p.m. at History Park in Tonasket, along the west end of the Okanogan River in town. The festival feature vendors of Garlic and all kinds of Produce. Art and Crafted items; the Beer, Cider & Wine Garden and Live Music! We have a Raffle and Kids Activities too!

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Matters

Poets, guests and staff gathered on June 26 to launch the 2022 edition of "The Shrub-Steppe Poetry Journal." This has been an annual event since 2019 (interrupted in 2020, of course, by the coronavirus).

The venue this year was the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center, which offered a charming open space surrounded by displays, artifacts and an antique pipe organ. Very cool—and in more ways than one, since the outside temperature was in the 90s.

I turned on the microphone and said, "Poetry, poetry, poetry!" People smiled, grabbed their food and drinks and took their seats. I began my presentation.

As editor of the Journal, it was my pleasure to publicly acknowledge the members of my team for once again making "The Shrub-Steppe Poetry Journal" possible. Assistant Editors Susan Rae Sampson and Ed Stover and Technical Design expert Bruce McCammon received a well-deserved round of applause from the group – and thank-you gifts from me.

Then it was the poets' turn to

"I commune with the lilacs We speak softly of lost spring and early summer.

...I can almost hear the first-born flowers breathe deeply "

— from "The Orondo House" by Holly Thorpe, Wenatchee.



Photo by Bruce McCammon Editor Susan Blair displays past editions of the SPPJ — from 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 — along with a special edition of "Cats and Dogs Reigning" from 2020.



Photo by Bruce McCammon Nancy Atkins, Chelan, reads her poem "My Pencil is a Truthful Oar."



Photo by Bruce McCammon Greg Wright, Twisp, reading two of his poems at the 2022 SPPJ launch.

"Perhaps you should stop reading now.

Continue and you may determine

whether this poem begins to live today or if it be dead when read, as said."

—First stanza of "Schrodinger's Poem" by Greg Wright, Twisp.

"The Broken Ankle" by Dotty Armstrong, Yakima starts off:

"You should remember that your feet are designed for slow careful walking."

(I didn't remember this 15 months ago and my ankle still hurts from that severe sprain.)

Story by Susan Blair

shine. Ten poets from our Central Washington community read some of their work published in this year's Journal. A few bits are here for you on this page.

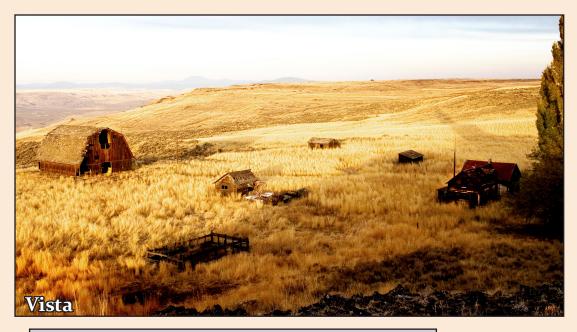
This year we published work from poets in Chelan, Cle Elum, East Wenatchee, Kennewick, Kittitas, Leavenworth, Malaga, Naches, Richland, Roslyn, Soap Lake, Toppenish, Tonasket, Twisp, West Richland, Wenatchee, Winthrop and Yakima. We attracted several "new" poets, as well, that is, folks who had never submitted work to us before now.

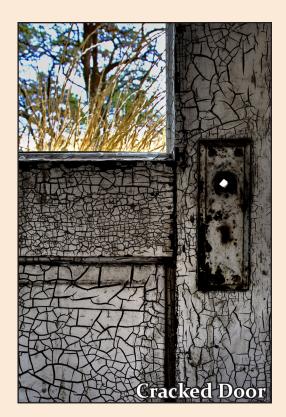
Many of our poets have shared with me their excitement and pleasure in having their work accepted for publication, which is intensely gratifying. It proves that there is a need for this Journal, that poetry is alive and well in our area, and that nurturing the creative spirit is an essential endeavor.

And *all* of this matters.

Copies of The Shrub-Steppe Poetry Journal may be obtained for a \$10 donation from Susan Blair. Contact her at: sfblair61@gmail. com, or go to: www.shrubsteppepoetry.org.

Shrub-Steppe Poetry is a 501(c) (03) all-volunteer non-profit organization.





She breathes the night that lights her eyes with stars, traces hungry circles across a universe blazing

with silence, her black orbs swift to swallow any rustle of moonlit straw.

Then devil-quick, she drops,

snaps talons around a thin cry of surprise and rises,

queen of shadows on the back of night, clutching dark spoils.

Upon a dusty rafter, she feeds, lusted with moonlight's call

and angel-swift, rises once again.

This was the Brandt homestead, a few miles east of Bridgeport. Every photo was captured on a single trip to the area, with permission of the owners, back in 2008.

Upon arriving, the first I saw was the swoop of a massive barn owl's wings, somewhere inside the barn, hence the poem's sub-

The barn fell a few years ago, and the rest was taken in the Pearl Hill fire.



Poem and photos by **Brad Skiff** 

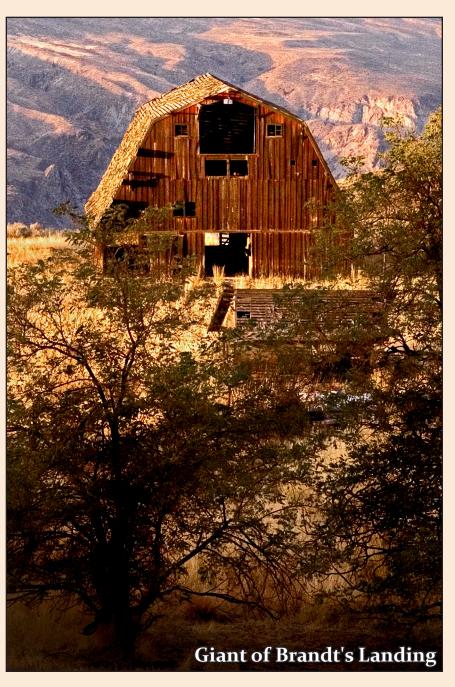




Photo by Joseph Claypoole

Fireworks often bring a dazzling display of neon shades and popping pigments, but they also often present an allure of their own even without color. This sparkler, of which the colors were also quite nice, was set off this past Fourth of July in Omak. It's almost its own little fireworks show.

