

COMMUNITY

Celebrating local food

Lunch, garden tours offered Saturday

By EVE NEWMAN
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The waning of summer means local gardeners are harvesting the fruits and vegetables of their season-long labor.

In celebration of local food producers, Laramie Local Foods and Feeding Laramie Valley have teamed up to organize Laramie Local Lunch in the Park, scheduled for 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. The event is set to take place at the Fort Sanders Building at LaBonte Park, 968 N. Ninth St.

"We are offering a fun time in the park for a couple of hours with some great local food," said Gayle Woodsum, founder of Feeding Laramie Valley.

Lunch will be available for \$5, featuring food from local producers. The menu includes made-from-scratch tortillas served with meat, beans, vegetables and fruit. Children 6 and younger can eat for free.

"Everything is going to be homemade, and all the ingredients are going to be locally produced," Woodsum said.

The event is also set to include live music, hula hoop lessons, information booths and llamas — which can be led through an obstacle course.

"It's a way to help everyone get out and move around and have a good time, as well as eat some really good food and do some thinking about our need for better food access," Woodsum said.

LaBonte Park is teeming with gardens, and tours will be available. Feeding Laramie Valley is building gardens on plots surrounding the Fort Sanders Building, where it is headquartered. Also at the park are a community garden and a garden featuring xeriscaping techniques.

Feeding Laramie Valley is a nonprofit organization that works to alleviate food insecurity in Albany County. One arm of the organization collects and



Intern Luke Todd pulls the leaves back on a plant, looking for ripened squash, Thursday in the south garden at the Feeding Laramie Valley building on North Ninth Street. JEREMY MARTIN/Boomerang photographer

IF YOU GO ...

What: Laramie Local Lunch in the Park

When: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday

Where: Fort Sanders Building at LaBonte Park, 968 N. Ninth St.

How much: Lunch is \$5 for those 7 and older; all other activities are free

More info: Call Sonya Moore at 760-1548

redistributes donated, locally-produced food to other nonprofits such as the Laramie Soup Kitchen.

Laramie Local Foods aims to support the production and consumption of local food.

Woodsum said Albany County has one of the highest rates of food insecurity in the state. Sixteen percent of families and 18 percent of children regularly experience food insecurity. A person is food insecure when he or she doesn't have sufficient access at all times to

enough food to lead a healthy, active life, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"They don't necessarily know where their next meal is coming from," Woodsum said. "They don't have enough food."

Feeding Laramie Valley volunteers have been building raised beds and planting gardens for food production. The latest project, on the north side of the building, includes areas that will have hoop houses covering them to extend the growing season.

Volunteers are also building garden beds using found materials as a way to show the public that installing a garden doesn't have to be an expensive proposition.

"We're doing our own salvaging and finding materials that we can build beds with," Woodsum said.

The Laramie Soup Kitchen is assisting in the production of Saturday's lunch.

"There's going to be something for something for everyone of all ages," Woodsum said.

Tickets to go on sale for Offerman performance

Tickets for Nick Offerman's performance at 8 p.m. Sept. 19 in the UW College of Arts and Sciences Auditorium are soon to be on sale. Tickets for students will be available starting Monday. The cost for students will be \$15, or premium seats can be purchased for \$20. Starting Sept. 8, tickets will go on sale for the public. The cost for the public will be \$25, or \$30 for premium seats. Tickets will be available at the Wyoming Union Information Desk, Performing Arts Box Office or www.uwo.edu/finearts.

GET OUT

This week

A look at events going on this week in Laramie and Albany County:

'SAVE THE LAST DANCE'

7 p.m. Thursday, University of Wyoming Ag Auditorium

A professional photographer is set to share his decade-long journey of grassland grouse research, according to a news release. Noppadol Paothong, a native of Thailand, is set to present images from his book "Save the Last Dance" at 7 p.m. Thursday in the University of Wyoming Ag Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

"I believe the only way these birds can get the support they desperately need and deserve is to make people care about them," Paothong says in the release. "While documenting these birds I've witnessed their rapid decline firsthand."

Go to www.savethelastdancebook.com for more information.

tenBYten FESTIVAL

Noon-midnight Sept. 6, Alibi Pub

Bands will rock the Alibi Pub, 404 S. Fourth St., from noon-midnight Sept. 6 during an all-day festival. The event, called "tenBYten," is set to bring the public "ten bands (for) ten dollars." The cost for the event is \$10 in advance or \$15 the day of.

The ten bands scheduled to perform are: Sageland Stomp; Bondurant; Static Nebulus; Harriman Exit; Wynona; Whiskey Slaps; Harpoon, the Whale; Ben Slater Band; Bancho; and Kannibal Korpitz.

'BEGINNING PIECING'

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, QuiltEssentials, 314 S. Second St.

QuiltEssentials is scheduled to host the next "Beginning Piecing" class from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday at 314 S. Second St., according to a news release. Pre-registration is required for the event, and the cost is \$40, which includes the pattern for the class.

The class, taught by Kara Enyeart, is slated to make a wall hanging and learn rotary cutting and piecing basics, the release states. The class also includes tips and tricks for new quilters and serves "as a refresher for lapsed quilters," the release states. After the event, the public is invited to drop by the shop and see the class sample.

Go to www.quiltessentials.org for more information.



DOG DAY IN THE PARK

Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Washington Park

The free annual event Dog Day in the Park is scheduled from noon-4 p.m. Sunday in Washington Park, according to a news release. The event is set to feature an agility and lure course, dog show, dog wash and other canine-related activities and information. The Washington Park Wading Pool will be reserved for dogs during the event.

GET OUT

Submission guidelines

If you've got an event you want people to GET OUT to, submit it to news@laramieboomerang.com, bring it to the office at 320 Grand Ave. or fax it to 307-721-2973. Include the who, what, when, where, why and how for the event, as well as the cost and where to go for more information. Word limit for briefs is 125 words. All submissions will be edited for grammar, style, spelling, libel and length.

For more information, call Peter Baumann at 755-3328 or Mark Heinz at 755-3321.

ART

Show invites collaboration from artists, crafters

By EVE NEWMAN
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A portrait is an intimate thing, whether it depicts a landscape, a person or an object, artist June Glasson said.

Glasson and artist Meg Thompson, founders of Wyoming Art Party, have invited artists and crafters from around Wyoming to submit portraits of their home state for an exhibit that opens today in a downtown gallery.

"Whether you love or hate Wyoming, you have a relationship with it," Glasson said.

"A Portrait of Wyoming" includes the work of 38 artists, writers and crafters who were invited to create portraits in whatever medium they chose. As part of the process, artists were paired up and asked to trade pieces, each one finishing what the other had started.

"The seed of this project came from the idea of creating a show that celebrates all the amazing people that make stuff in Wyoming and creating an opportunity for those people to have exchange or conversation," Glasson said.

An opening reception is set for 5-8 p.m. today at 207 S. First St., above the Pedal House bike shop. The gallery will be open from 2-7



"Intersections" by Colleen Friday and Diana Baumbach, both of Laramie, is made of paint, beads and hand-cut ephemera on archival board. The piece is part of an exhibit, "A Portrait of Wyoming." Courtesy image

p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays through Sept. 19. A closing reception is set for 5-8 p.m. Sept. 19.

Wyoming art isn't just landscapes and cowboys, Glasson said. Fine artists are working alongside crafters and writers as they ply their creative trades.

"There's a very specific idea of what Western art or Wyoming art looks like," Glasson said. "We wanted to broaden that picture. There are a lot of people doing a lot of things."

"A Portrait of Wyoming" is the first project undertaken by Wyoming Art Party, an organization started by Glasson and Thompson to facilitate exhibits and projects.

Glasson and Thompson

exemplify the notion that Wyoming is home to artists with diverse skill sets. Glasson paints, creates sculpture and does design work such as book covers. Thompson, the artist behind downtown Laramie's new bike racks, is a painter and furniture maker.

Though the show isn't comprehensive, it shows the range of creative work in the state, Glasson said.

"People can expect to see a diverse group of work from a lot of different artists and craftspeople and writers," she said. "Hopefully, it's a big picture of what art can look like in Wyoming."

In creating a roster of artists for the show, Glasson and Thompson consulted with the Wyoming Arts

IF YOU GO ...

What: Wyoming Art Party presents "A Portrait of Wyoming"

When: 2-7 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays or by appointment through Sept. 19; an opening reception is set for 5-8 p.m. today

Where: 207 S. First St., above the Pedal House

How much: Free

More info: www.wyomingartparty.com

Council and a folklorist at the University of Wyoming. They also asked around, seeking artists who weren't afraid of the collaborative nature of the project.

Glasson said artists often work in isolation, and, in a rural state, they can be spread out. Inviting artists to trade pieces was a way to help them break out of their normal routines. She said there weren't any rules or boundaries, leaving it up to participants to figure out how they wanted to proceed. "It's a really fun way and also a very challenging way for people to produce work," she said.

"A Portrait of Wyoming" is scheduled to show in Lander and Jackson after the Laramie exhibit.