

HONORS

BMCC releases spring term honor roll

Union County students attending Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton earned the academic distinction of being named to one of the school's honor rolls for spring term 2018. The highest honor is inclusion on the President's List for earning a 4.0 GPA. Receiving this honor were Rachel Berg, Hunter Browning, Harmony Collier, Darby Lahaug, Hannah Leigh and Miah Slater. Valerie Goss was named to the Dean's List, which is for students achieving a GPA of 3.40 to 3.84. Inclusion on the Honor Roll for earning a 3.0 to 3.39 GPA were Zachary Adamson, Tori Brownell, Aleasha McIntosh, Brenale Ritter and Kevin Sword. BMCC's honor rolls are open only to full-time students.

Two Union County students earn academic honor

Kyla Gomes of La Grande and Delanie Kohr of Union qualified for the 2018 spring quarter honor roll at Central Washington University. Central undergraduate students who earn a 3.5 or better grade point average, on a 4.0 scale, while carrying at least 12 graded credit hours of study are eligible for the honor roll. CWU is a regional, comprehensive public university located on a 380-acre campus in Ellensburg.

Union County residents inducted into Honor Society

Five Union County students studying at Eastern Oregon University were recently initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

The EOU students earning this academic distinction were Ryann Alexander of Union, April Curtis of La Grande, Peter Geissing of Summerville, Laura Gow-Hogge of Summerville and Nathan Lowe of La Grande.

Phi Kappa Phi membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.

Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create an honor society that recognizes excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

OTEC linemen hone rescue skills



Courtesy Photo

Linemen from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative recently participated in a OSHA-mandated pole top and bucket truck rescue certification course.

Annual training prepares linemen for emergencies

BAKER CITY — According to a press release from the Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, based in Baker City and serving Baker, Union, Grant and Harney counties, linemen find themselves in some of the most challenging, diverse and risky work environments in modern industry. Having a solid understanding of what it takes to get out of a difficult spot is essential.

Linemen from all four Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative districts recently

completed the annual pole top and bucket truck rescue certification course, which is mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

"This annual training is just one of many very important skills necessary to provide emergency care that we hope we never have to use," said OTEC's manager of safety and loss control, Rick Jensen.

The annual training helps the cooperative's linemen prepare for situations where they might have to climb a pole to rescue a co-worker who has been electrocuted or suffered another life-threatening injury. Crews are also

trained on bucket truck rescues which become necessary should a co-worker become incapacitated while in a bucket truck working on overhead lines. For either scenario, OTEC crews are expected to have the injured lineman on the ground in a few short minutes after beginning the rescue effort.

"Linemen all over the country take part in the training," Jensen said. "We are extremely fortunate to have some of the most experienced linemen right here at OTEC. When it comes to safety and training, these guys continually look out for each other and our members."

Hospital speech language pathologist wins award



Courtesy Photo

Karen Wing, speech language pathologist at Grande Ronde Hospital, received a 1st Award for Continuing Education.

LA GRANDE — Grande Ronde Hospital announced that Speech Language Pathologist Karen Wing was recently granted a 1st Award for Continuing Education (ACE) demonstrating her commitment to professional learning beyond her academic degree.

Wing is a certified SLP in GRH's Therapy and Sports Medicine Department.

Department Manager June Wilson, OT, received notification of Wing's achievement via a joint statement from the director and board chair of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The statement noted that Wing's personal efforts to continue

her professional education put her into a select group of individuals who were being recognized by the organization.

"We certainly are proud of Karen. She is a wonderful therapist who is dedicated to providing the best, most up-to-date and evidence-based care to her patients and her profession," Wilson said.

Wing has been practicing speech therapy in Eastern Oregon since 2010. She graduated with honors from Oregon State University in 2003 with a bachelor of science in public health focusing on community health. She received a master of science in speech language pathology from Idaho State University

in 2010. Wing has worked with a wide range of patients including those with Parkinson's disease, dementia, Alzheimer's disease, strokes, neurological disorders, traumatic brain injuries, multiple sclerosis, autism spectrum disorders, developmental delays, articulation disorders and swallowing disorders.

Over her career, Wing has provided speech therapy services in acute care, inpatient rehab, outpatient, long-term care and school settings serving pediatric, adult and geriatric populations. She has been a full-time therapist with GRH since 2015, but worked for the organization four year prior to that in a part-time position.

Texas man stops in La Grande on bike ride from Alaska to Texas



Max Denning/The Observer

Randy Roscoe stopped in La Grande on Aug. 10, as he bikes from Anchorage, Alaska, to El Paso, Texas. Roscoe is riding to encourage people to donate to the Wounded Warriors Project. He said so far he has ridden about 1,900 miles and he has 1,800 miles to go.

Elgin High School student joins the National Guard



Courtesy Photo

Katherine Hansen, 17, of Elgin joined the La Grande National Guard July 24 in hopes of becoming a medic. Hansen will participate in monthly guard trainings and drills for the entirety of her senior year of high school and upon graduation in June 2019 will leave for 10 weeks of basic training, followed by medic training in Texas. Hansen then plans to attend Brigham Young University medical school in Provo, Utah. Hansen is the first female in her family to join the armed forces. She is the daughter of Brock and Laura Eckstein of Elgin.

WISH LIST

Local nonprofit human service organizations often need donations of specific items or volunteers. Wish List items are updated every month. Anyone who would like to volunteer or make donations should contact the agency directly.

BARKIN' BASEMENT
541-975-2275
Drop off at the store, 1507 N. Willow, La Grande
household furniture
kitchen towels
kitchenware
home decor items
toys
books

ELGIN FOOD BANK

541-910-4585
Call to arrange drop off, 850 Alder St., Elgin
fresh fruits and vegetables
eggs
canned foods
dry foods

HAVEN FROM HUNGER (EOU food bank)
Call 541-786-3663 to make drop-off arrangements
non-perishable food items
personal hygiene products for showering (soap, shampoo, shaving supplies)
towels
female hygiene products
other hygiene products (deodorant, etc.)

cleaning supplies (especially laundry soap and dish soap)
pet food

MT. EMILY SAFE CENTER
541-963-0602
2107 Third St., La Grande
Drop off at the center
paper towels
toilet paper
copy paper
hand soap
baby wipes
journals/diaries

NORTH POWDER FOOD BANK
541-898-2146
Drop off at United Methodist Church, 390 E St.

dry foods
canned foods
frozen foods
toilet paper
facial tissues
paper towels
toiletries
cleaning supplies

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES
541-426-9411
Drop off at the office, 207 NE Park St., Enterprise
beginning reader books for ages 3 to 7
copy paper
pencils
binders
file folders



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