

Alfonso Kesler receives scholarship



Submitted photo

Alfonso Kesler, a student at the RiverBend Alternative Education School, also known as RiverBend High School, was the recipient of a \$330 scholarship from the Union County Retired Educators Association.

Alfonso told the educators he is proud to be the first high school graduate from his family and plans to use the money to continue college classes.

“What you are doing is giving me motivation to continue my work. It means a lot, and I am going to do the best I can,” he said, adding that he has been developing leadership skills in construction and working with the U.S.Forest Service to thin timber while at RiverBend.

Presenting the award to Kesler is Lonnie Meyers, chairman of the Union County Retired Educators Association’s scholarship committee.

Masters recently celebrates 100th birthday

Observer Staff

Forrest Masters, a long-time resident of the Grande Ronde Valley and now living in Beaverton, turned 100 on Dec. 7. This milestone was celebrated with friends and family on his birthday.

Forrest was born in Polk, Nebraska, and moved to Corvallis with his family early in his life. He graduated from Corvallis High School and enrolled at what is now Oregon State University. While there he met his future wife, Alice Hughes. When the U.S. became involved in World War II, he quit college and enlisted in the Navy and became a pilot. During the war he flew dive bombers off the carrier Intrepid and received several medals and commendations for his actions.

Upon returning from the war, Forrest married Alice and shortly thereafter moved to the La Grande area and started his family,



Submitted photo



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raising four boys and working in several occupations. For several years he was involved in farming and at one time owned a business. He worked for years at Goss Motors selling cars and as shop foreman.

For several years, Forrest served on the school board and he was very active in the First Presbyterian Church and Kiwanis. He and Alice moved to King City in the late 1980s to be closer to family and escape the Eastern Oregon winters. There he remained active in Kiwanis and

the local Presbyterian church and played a lot of golf.

In 2008 Alice passed away after more than 50 years of marriage. Forrest remained active in the community volunteering for Meals on Wheels and became a first-rate bridge player. Up until a few months ago he was still driving and just recently moved into an assisted living facility. His new address is 10880 S.W. Davies Road, Apt. 100, Beaverton 97008. Friends are encouraged to contact him and wish him a Happy Birthday.

BIRTHS

GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL
BAKKER:To Jessie Bakker and Christopher Bakker, of Cove, a son, Callahan Elroy Bruce Bakker, 8 pounds 6 ounces, Dec. 12 at 1:44 p.m. Grandparents are Curt and Carol Bakker and Greg and Chris Barreto. Great-grandparents are Russ and Cress Bakker.
BARNHART:To Marissa Rose Barnhart and Kaden James Barnhart, of La Grande, a son, Jameson Dean Barnhart, 7 pounds 2 ounces, Dec. 10 at 9:09 a.m. Grandparents are Jamie and John Barnhart and Marcy and Roy Spry.
COCHRAN:To Kyllie Lauren

Wilbanks and Ashelee Morgan Cochran, of La Grande, a son, Mason Ladd Cochran, 6 pounds 15 ounces, Nov. 22 at 9:03 a.m.
DANGER:To Sheri Rysdam and Trey Danger, of La Grande, a son, Alexis Rysdam Danger, 9 pounds 10.2 ounces, Dec. 5 at 7:44 p.m.
GOHN:To Kristie Lynn Delepierre and Charles Michael Gohn, of La Grande, a son, Roc Michael Gohn, 6 pounds 2 ounces, Dec. 1 at 11:16 a.m. Grandparents are Brenda and Duane Delepierre and Shawna and Marshall Weaver.

GOODWIN:To Chelsy Paulina Goodwin and Nathaniel Lee Goodwin, of La Grande, a son, Ayden Jessy James Goodwin, 7 pounds 10 ounces, Nov. 27 at 1:09 p.m. Grandparents are James Thwreatt, Chris Thwreatt, Lynn Tackett and Larry Goodwin.
GOURLEY:To Katherine Sue Gourley and Sawn Daniel Gourley, of Union, a son, Tobias Gourley, 7 pounds 12 ounces, Nov. 21 at 8:16 a.m.
PORTER:To Eden Elizabeth Porter and Rubin Ray Lemmons, of La Grande, a son, Luke Aidan Porter,

9 pounds 5 ounces, Nov. 26 at 8:07 a.m. Grandparents are Lisa and Joe Crawford and Sanda Nelson.
TRAMMELL:To Lindsay Trammell and Stephen Trammell, of La Grande, a son, Johnny Trammell, 5 pounds 4 ounces, Nov. 29 at 8:51 a.m. Grandparents are John and Susan Trammell, Rhonda Taylor, and Ron and Laura Califf.
WALLOWA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
BRONSON:To Brandy Bronson and Grady Bronson, of Enterprise, a daughter, Ember Dovey-Kay Bronson,

7 pounds 15 ounces, Nov. 23 at 11:14 a.m. Grandparents are Cissy and Skip Shelton and Donna and Wayne Bronson.
GALLEGOS:To Teri Gallegos and Earnest Gallegos Jr., of Wallowa, a son, William Michael Gallegos, 6 pounds 4.5 ounces, Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. Grandparents are Bonnie and Bill Dietrich.
SULLIVAN:To Cassandra Sullivan and Daniel Sullivan, of Enterprise, a son, Colson Curtis Daniel Sullivan, 10 pounds, Dec. 5 at 4:46 p.m. Grandparents are Stacey Davis-Sykes, Mark Jones, and Barbara and Clifford Conrad.

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