

BRIEFLY
Science and religion to be discussed

PENDLETON — Evolution vs. Creation is the topic of a free community event this weekend.

Dick Temple will present information supporting creation and Tim Hoffnagle will highlight evolution. John Turner will serve as moderator. The event is Saturday at 7 p.m. in Room 200 of the science building at Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

For more information, contact Rev. Tim Van Cleave at bethel.ag@hotmail.com or 541-276-7559.

Bird meeting focuses on Vaux’s swifts

PENDLETON — An Audubon presentation about Vaux’s swifts will be presented by Larry Schwitters of Seattle during the upcoming Pendleton Bird Club meeting.

The public is invited to hear information, which is relevant to the area as Vaux’s Swifts were spotted descending into the chimney at the Vert Auditorium during last year’s Pendleton Round-Up.

The gathering is Thursday at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church, 215 N. Main St., Pendleton.

Vaux’s Happening, the Audubon citizen science project Schwitters is affiliated with, has been instrumental in preserving communal roosting sites along the Pacific corridor.

The public is invited to the gathering. For more information, contact pendletonbirdclub@gmail.com or visit www.pendletonbirders.org.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, FEB. 6
FIRST FRIDAY, all day, Tamastlikt Cultural Institute, 47106 Wildhorse Blvd. (off Highway 331 near Wildhorse Resort & Casino), Pendleton. Free admission all day. “Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge, Shared Science” exhibit opens, runs through May 2. (541-966-9748).

WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100).

STORY TIME, 10:15-11 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave. (541-567-2882).

TODDLER STORY TIME, 10:15-10:45 a.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. (541-966-0380).

MICKIE EBERT RETIREMENT CELEBRATION, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Domestic Violence Services, 240 S.E. Second St., Suite B., Hermiston. Wish Mickie a happy retirement and enjoy refreshments. Everyone welcome.

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for those under 60. Meet new friends, enjoy pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels call CAPECO at 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101).

STORY & CRAFT TIME, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 Bonanza St.

AFTER SCHOOL STORY TIME, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Older siblings welcome. (541-966-0380).

“FEED THE CHILDREN” WINE AND BREW TASTING FUNDRAISER, 5-8 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Features hors d’oeuvres, Bergevin Lane wines and Double Mountain beers. Tickets are \$15 per person, which includes three tastes of wine or beer (also sold by the glass). Proceeds benefit Altrusa International of Pendleton’s backpack program for Pendleton schools. (Jan Loughary 541-276-1387).

VFW BINGO, doors open at 6 p.m., games start at 7 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST, 6-10 a.m., White Eagle Grange, between Pendleton and Pilot Rock on Highway 395 South. Suggested donation \$7 for ages 8 and up, \$4 for ages 5-7 and free for 4 and under. Donate 2 non-perishable food items for \$1 discount. (Gail 541-276-3778).

PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 7-10 a.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. \$5 for full breakfast/\$3 for lighter meal. Benefits general maintenance fund. Volunteers welcome. (541-449-1332).

REGION 23 CHESS TOURNAMENT, 8 a.m. check-in, games 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hermiston High School small commons and library, 600 N. First St., Hermiston. Secondary school chess players will participate in a qualifier for the state contest in mid-March. The public is welcome to observe. (Delia Wallis 541-667-6144).

FREE FOR ALL, 9:30-10:15 a.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Family art experience for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (541-278-9201).

HIP & HANDMADE, 11 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free drop-in art project class for adults. (541-278-9201).

SATURDAY SPIN-IN, 12 noon to 4 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Fiber enthusiasts are encouraged to bring spinning wheels, portable looms and other tools of the craft to share fellowship and expertise. Coffee and tea provided. (541-278-9201).

BEACH & BEEF CRAB FEED, 5 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. dinner begins, Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. No-host bar and social hour begins at 5 p.m., followed by all-you-can-eat crab, beef kabobs and sides at 6:30 p.m. Raffle and silent auction will be held during social hour and dinner, followed by a live auction at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person, available at the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce and the Hermiston School District. Proceeds support the Hermiston Education foundation, which provides grants to staff members of the Hermiston School District. (Regan Boysen, 541-567-1043).

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SEA-FOOD FEAST, 6-9 p.m., Pendleton Elks Lodge, 14 S.E. Third St. Tickets are \$30 per person. Proceeds benefit Elks scholarships. (Rob 541-240-1229 or Billy 541-969-2765).

EVOLUTION VS. CREATION DEBATE, 7 p.m., Blue Mountain Community College Science & Technology Building room 200, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. Tim Hoffnagle, research biologist, and Dr. Dick Temple, veterinarian, will present both sides of the evolution vs. creation debate. Free admission, everyone welcome. (Tim Van Cleave 541-965-0082).

OLDIES NIGHT IN MILTON-FREEWATER, 7-10 p.m., Wesley United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. BJ the DJ will spin love songs for almost all ages, from the 1940s through the 1980s. Light refreshments will be available. Free and suitable for all ages. (Bob Jones 541-938-7028).

SUNDAY, FEB. 8
HIS LITTLE FEET INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S CHOIR, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Children ages 6-13 from India and Ethiopia will perform. Free admission, but a love offering will be taken; proceeds benefit His Little Feet International. (866-252-3988 or www.hislittlefeet.org).

VALENTINE DANCE AND SOCIAL, 1-4 p.m. Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St. Enjoy live music and dancing with Dave & Little Joe, fingers foods (bring a plate to share) and catching up with friends. Cost is \$3.50 for dancers, \$1.50 for non-dancers. Dress up or casual. Everyone welcome. (541-276-7101).

HIS LITTLE FEET INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S CHOIR, 6 p.m., Hermiston High School auditorium, 600 S. First St. Children ages 6-13 from India and Ethiopia will perform. Free admission, but a love offering will be taken; proceeds benefit His Little Feet International. (866-252-3988 or www.hislittlefeet.org).

MONDAY, FEB. 9
WALKING FOR WELLNESS, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Free. (541-276-8100).

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 a.m., Athena Public Library, 418 E. Main St. For ages birth to 6. (541-566-2470).

TOT TIME, 10-11 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. For children ages 0-5. Cost is \$1 per child. (541-276-8100).

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 noon, Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for those under 60. Meet new friends, enjoy pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store and more from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels call CAPECO at 541-276-1926. (Maxine 541-276-5303).

ART STUDIO, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Free class for ages 7-12 to develop skills and encourage art exploration. (541-278-9201).

LAND: ‘It’s about finding the balance between conservation and agricultural activities’

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wittingly hurting the local tax base and eliminating grazing opportunities for cattle herds, damaging both the environment and economy.

“If this trend continues, we’ll see a bigger impact to those producers who are still in the business,” Nantz said.

Nantz, who serves as chairman of the OCA’s Young Cattlemen’s Committee, said public and state agencies don’t pay taxes like private landowners do. Hence, as more land comes off the county tax rolls, private operations will continue to see their taxes increase.

The loss of acres for grazing also means less rangeland for cattle, Nantz said, driving down supply and increasing the cost of beef for consumers. Last year’s U.S. cattle herd was already at its lowest levels since 1951 following years of drought.

As far as the environment goes, healthy ecosystems rely on responsible grazing to remove dead grasses and rejuvenate fields, Nantz said. Without grazing, large pastures become overgrown with dead grasses that choke out new growth and can burn up in destructive wildfires, further damaging the environment.

“I think that’s where some of the conversation can happen with these (conservation) groups,” Nantz said. “The biggest thing I’d like to stress is to just have an open dialogue.”

Sue Doroff, president of the Western Rivers Conservancy, agrees that grazing and conservation can be compatible. That’s why the remaining 40 percent of Rat-



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

The 8,000-acre Murtha Ranch was bought by the Western Rivers Conservancy and handed over to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which lead to the creation of the Cottonwood State Park in 2013.

tray Ranches will continue to be used for farming and ranching, she said.

However, nobody wants to see cattle in the river or along riparian areas, Doroff said. The Bureau of Land Management will protect those areas for the benefit of wildlife, and to preserve the qualities of a wild and scenic river.

“There’s plenty of places where grazing is appropriate,” Doroff said. “It’s about finding the balance between conservation and agricultural activities.”

Rattray Ranches is situated along the waterways of Thirtymile Creek, a tributary of the lower John Day and a critical source of cold water for fish. By acquiring the ranch, the conservancy plans to preserve four miles of creek and 12 miles of front-

age along the John Day River itself.

The area’s upland habitat is also home to one of Oregon’s largest California big-horn sheep populations, with a herd of about 650 animals.

Located about 40 miles upstream of Cottonwood Canyon, the ranch provides access for hikers, boaters, hunters and fishermen to enjoy the rugged outdoors. Maintaining access was an important point for both the conservancy and Rattray family as part of the sale, Doroff said.

Between the environmental, agricultural and recreational opportunities, Doroff said Rattray Ranches is set to become a good news story for everyone.

“If you watch how Rattray unfolds, you’ll see it is something to welcome,” she

said.

Western Rivers Conservancy will begin restoration projects on the ranch in the coming year, with input from communities. It is not clear how long it will take to convey the riparian land to the BLM.

Nantz said most of these lands would be in better hands with private ownership, who could be better stewards than the already overextended public agencies. Ranchers plan to discuss the matter during the OCA’s spring quarterly meeting Feb. 19-20 in Salem, in order to raise further awareness.

“A lot of people don’t see this happening,” Nantz said. “These types of things are very quiet, behind the scenes and not very visual. You don’t realize the impact until it’s too late.”

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Adams Community Church <i>Duane Geyer, Pastor</i> 140 N. Main, Adams, OR 566-9457 <u>Worship</u> 9 am	GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA OPEN HEARTS – OPEN DOOR www.graceandmercylutheran.org Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. 541-289-4535 Dot Hensley, President 164 E. Main St. Hermiston, Oregon 97838	St. Johns Episcopal Church All People Are Welcome <i>Scripture, Tradition and Reason</i> Family service 9am Sunday Gladys Ave & 7th Hermiston Fr. Dan Lediard, Priest. PH: 567-6672	Redeemer Episcopal Church 241 SE Second St. Pendleton (541)276-3809 www.pendletonepiscopal.org Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. Wednesday Worship Noon Wednesday Evening Prayer and Pot Luck 6:00 p.m. All Are Welcome
Grace Baptist Church 555 SW 11th, Hermiston 567-9497 <i>Nursery provided for all services</i> Sunday School - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM 6:00 pm Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM “Proclaiming God’s word, growing in God’s grace”	<i>First Church of God “Love Is Spoken Here”</i> 712 SW 27th Pendleton 541-276-1894 Early Service: 8:30 am Sunday School: 9:30 am Second Service: 10:30 am Wednesday Service (All Ages) 7 pm www.fcogpendleton.com	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -Presbyterian Church (USA)- 201 SW Dorion Ave. Pendleton Service of Worship - 10:00 am Children’s Sunday School - 10:20 am Fellowship - 11:00 am www.pendletonpresbyterian.com Open Hearted...Open Minded	Come meet Jesus at PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH 3202 S.W. Nye Avenue, Pendleton, OR 541-276-7590 Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 AM Sunday Bible Classes 9:45 AM Sunday Youth Group 6:00 PM Awana Kids Club Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00 PM K - 6th Grade (Sept-May)
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH <i>Pastor Jon Jensen</i> <i>in Mission for Christ LCMC</i> Bible Study.....9:00 AM Sunday Worship.....10:30 AM Red Lion Hotel (Oregon Trail Room) www.faithpendleton.org	Living Word Christian Center Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM Sharon Miller, Pastor 401 Northgate • Pendleton 278-8082 www.livingwordccc.com	The Salvation Army <i>Center for Worship & Service</i> Sunday Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship Service Wednesday Bible Study 5:30 Family Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study COME AS YOU ARE 150 SE EMIGRANT (541)276-3369	Peace Lutheran Church ELCA 210 NW 9th, Pendleton Join us Sundays 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Class <i>~Come and be at Peace~</i> on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday
Community Presbyterian Church 14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR 922-3250 Worship: 10 AM Sunday School at 11:30	Faith Center Church Worshipping God • Loving People 108 S. Main • 276-9569 Sunday School 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sr. Pastor, Ray O’Grady pendletonfaithcenter.org	FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) 215 N Main • Pendleton Ph:541-276-5358 Web: www.fccpendleton.org Join us for 10:40am Sunday Worship with Sunday School at 9:30am. Wednesday Fellowship Meal & Study Groups-Open to All Ages-at 5:15pm. Quality Nursery Care is Offered at No Charge.	New Hope Community Church <i>Ministries for the entire family</i> 1350 S Hwy 395, Hermiston Sunday Worship Services: 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Classes for kids during both! Call 567-8441 Servicios en Español
Seventh-Day Adventist Church Saturday Services Pendleton 1401 SW Goodwin Place 276-0882 Sabbath School 9:20 am Worship Service 10:45 am Pilot Rock 104 W. Main Sabbath School 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am	<i>a place to belong</i> Pendleton First INVITING ENRICHING INVOLVING EMPOWERING SUNDAY SERVICES AM Celebration-10:00am AM Kids Place -10:00am The Connection--6:00pm Groups for all ages: Adults, Children, Youth, & College Thursdays Celebrate Recovery-6:00pm Celebration Place-6:00pm Other Groups Available Weekly For more info visit WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM 1911 SE Court Ave 541-276-6417 Assembly of God Church	First United Methodist Church 352 SE 2nd St., Pendleton, OR Office 276-2616 <i>New Pastor Dr. Jim Pierce</i> Worship Service 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Broadcast KUMA 11:00 AM Childcare Available Choir practice Sundays 8:30 AM	BAHA’I FAITH “The Unity of All Mankind” Pendleton Baha’i Center at 1015 SE Court Place Devotions Sundays @ 11:00am; Everyone invited! (541) 276-9360 visit us at www.pendletonbahais.org
Pendleton FREE METHODIST CHURCH Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Mid-Week Children & Youth • Weekly Adult Life Groups 1711 SW 44th St. • 541-276-6015 • www.pendfmc.org			

His Way of Hope Series

Every Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 6:30 pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church

855 W. Highland Ave. Hermiston, OR.

For Info call (541) 567-9000