

BOARDMAN

# Navy ensembles to rock the SAGE Center



Photo contributed by Musician Third Class Sampe Rumpak  
**Musician Third Class Daniel Weber plays guitar during a May 2014 performance of the U.S. Navy Band Northwest's popular music ensemble Passage. The group, along with the Five-Star Brass quintet will perform a free concert March 9 at the SAGE Center in Boardman.**

East Oregonian

The SAGE Center will be rockin' in style as the U.S. Navy Band Northwest's rock music group Passage and Five-Star Brass quintet play a free concert.

The two ensembles will perform Monday, March 9 at 7 p.m. at 101 Olson Road, Boardman.

Passage is ideal for all audiences and age groups demanding high-energy popular music and audience interaction, said Musician Third Class Peter Mattice.

Josh Kerns of Seattle's KIRO radio describes the group as "a contemporary face of the fighting force." The group performs hits by the Red Hot Chili Peppers, AC/DC, Bonnie Raitt, Bruno Mars, Journey, Stevie Wonder, Brian Setzer and more.

Members of Passage are Unit Leader Musician First

Class Robby Taylor on guitar and lead vocals; Musician Second Class Mike Oliver, sound engineer; Musician Second Class Matt Jones, keyboards; Musician Third Class Daniel Weber, guitar and vocals; Musician Third Class Micah Lewis, drums; and Musician Third Class Peter Mattice, bass.

The brass quintet performs in U.S. Navy ceremonies, patriotic opening events, community outreach missions, and educational enrichment events in schools and universities, said Mattice. Two trumpets, a French horn, a trombone and a tuba make up the band. The ensemble performs classical, Dixieland, jazz and contemporary pieces, Mattice said.

Members of the brass quintet are Unit Leader Musician First Class Joseph Schoonmaker, trombone; Musician First Class Rog-

er Starcher, tuba; Musician Second Class Chris McGann, trumpet; Musician Second Class Blake Yarbrough, French horn; and Musician Third Class Patrick Pedlar, trumpet.

"We are privileged to have the talented Navy Band Northwest perform at the SAGE Center," said Kalie Davis, SAGE Center manager. "This free concert is a great opportunity for the community to take advantage of both their brass quintet and 'Passage' rock band. We have a beautiful theater and we are excited to use it for talented groups coming through our area."

For questions about the upcoming performance, contact Davis at 541-481-7243 or [kalied@portofmorrow.com](mailto:kalied@portofmorrow.com). For more information about the bands, visit [www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrnw/about/navy\\_band/ensembles.html](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/cnrnw/about/navy_band/ensembles.html)

BRIEFLY

**Sheriff's office looks to make courthouses more secure**

PENDLETON — Officials of the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office reported Wednesday they are striving to balance courthouse security with public access.

County jail commander Capt. Steward Harp and undersheriff Jim Littlefield delivered a report to the county board of commissioners about improving security at the county courthouses in Pendleton and Hermiston. Harp said he is looking at four Oregon laws regarding guns in courthouses and trying to assess what the laws allow.

Littlefield said this assessment of courthouse security is part of a larger review of sheriff's office operations since Terry Rowan won election to the position. Littlefield also said courthouse security used to be under the umbrella of the criminal division, but now is under corrections. That division makes more sense, he said, due to jail staff working with the offenders who shuttle between jail and court hearings.

**Personal, real property tax returns due March 1**

PENDLETON — The deadline for returning personal property and real property tax returns for anyone doing business in Umatilla County is March 1.

Returns must be in the Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Office or postmarked on or before that date to avoid a late filing penalty.

If you are a new business and have not received a tax return in the mail, it is your responsibility to call the personal property appraiser at the Assessment and Taxation Office at 541-278-6217.

**Port has vacancy on board of commissioners**

UMATILLA — The Port of Umatilla is looking to fill a vacancy on its five-member board of commissioners following the Feb. 10 resignation of Milton-Freewater resident Marjorie Roff.

Roff served as a port commissioner for approximately 24 years. During her tenure, she supported infrastructure improvements and lobbied for trade policies to increase economic development and create jobs throughout the region.

Those interested in being appointed to serve out the remainder of Roff's term through June 30 should send a letter of interest, experience and qualifications to the port at Box 879 in Umatilla. Materials can also be hand-delivered to the port offices at 500 Willamette Ave.

In addition, the terms of commissioners Kurt Bendixsen and Tim Mabry will also expire June 30. Those interested in running for their seats can contact the Umatilla County Elections Office at 541-278-6254. All port commission seats are at-large.

For more information, contact port General Manager Kim B. Puzey at 541-922-3224.

**County opposes bill to grant more power to irrigation districts**

PENDLETON — Umatilla County Board of Commissioners took a stand against another House bill. The board voted Wednesday to oppose HB 2894, which would give irrigation districts the power to approve or veto land division within or adjacent to boundaries of the district without public review or input.

Umatilla County planning director Tamra Mabbott said state law already requires counties and cities to work with irrigation districts in land

division processes. She asked commissioners to approve a letter that explained HB 2894 would create a second review process "with no obvious venue for appeal."

Commissioners George Murdock and Bill Elfering voted in favor of sending the letter; Commissioner Larry Givens was absent.

The county board also opted not to weigh in at this time on possible bills curtailing gun rights. Murdock said he has reservations about jumping in on all matters the Legislature will take up, particularly when there is no actual proposal on the table. Elfering agreed. Murdock said it comes down to a matter of taking an informed position rather than one on speculation.

**Hermiston ag research station gets 5K grant**

HERMISTON — Northwest Farm Credit Services has awarded the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center a \$5,000 Rural Community Grant to help fund construction of a new building on the station's campus.

The building will include three insect-rearing rooms, one tissue culture room, an agronomy laboratory and equipment room. It will be named after former station agronomist Don Horneck, who died unexpectedly last year.

"This building will support new facilities that will aid our faculty and staff to continue to provide new significant research-based information to support high-value irrigated agriculture in the region," said HAREC director Phil Hamm in a

recent announcement.

Based in Pendleton, Northwest Farm Credit Services — with support from CoBank — has awarded 83 rural grants totaling nearly \$150,000 across the region. The next rural grant deadline is Oct. 1.

Visit [www.northwestfcs.com](http://www.northwestfcs.com) for more information.

**Deadlines looming for farm safety net**

Important deadlines are looming for Oregon farmers to decide which of two new risk management programs will provide the best coverage for their operations.

Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) were established by the 2014 Farm Bill and replace the old direct payment system. Farms have until Feb. 27 to reallocate their base acres. The last day to choose coverage is March 31.

"These programs provide financial protection against unexpected changes in the marketplace, so now is the time to have those final conversations, to ask any remaining questions and to visit the Farm Service Agency to make these decisions," said Phil Ward, Oregon's state FSA director.

If farms do not make their choice before deadline, they will miss out on 2014 payments and the operation will default to PLC coverage through 2018, Ward said.

More than 3,500 training sessions have been conducted on the new safety net programs, including more than 40 meetings in Oregon. Tools are available online at [www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc) to help producers see how different coverage options will affect their

payments in the future.

For more information, contact the Umatilla County FSA office at 541-278-8049 or Morrow County FSA office at 541-676-9011.

**Parking lot sale includes clothes, furniture**

HERMISTON — Clothing and furniture are featured in a parking lot sale at Agape House.

The event is Saturday from 9-11:30 a.m. at 500 W. Harper Road, Hermiston. Clothing items are three for \$1 and furniture is reasonably priced. Donations for the sale will be accepted through Friday.

Agape House serves area individuals and families in need. For more information, call 541-567-8774.

**Marimba band to play at art center**

LA GRANDE — Authentic and lively, toe-tappin' Zimbabwean Marimba and mbira music is featured during a free family-friendly event at the Art Center at the Old Library.

The event kicks off Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at 1006 Penn Ave., La Grande. Craft beer, wine, hearty soup and sandwiches will be available for purchase. Donations are accepted

at the door with proceeds benefiting ArtsEast and Art Center programs.

Also, for those interested in getting pointers, a beginning marimba workshop will be offered by Kupenga Marimba Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., also at the art center. The cost is \$25.

For more information or to register for the workshop, contact 541-624-2800 or [ucartctr@eoni.com](mailto:ucartctr@eoni.com).

**Senior center design committee seeks input**

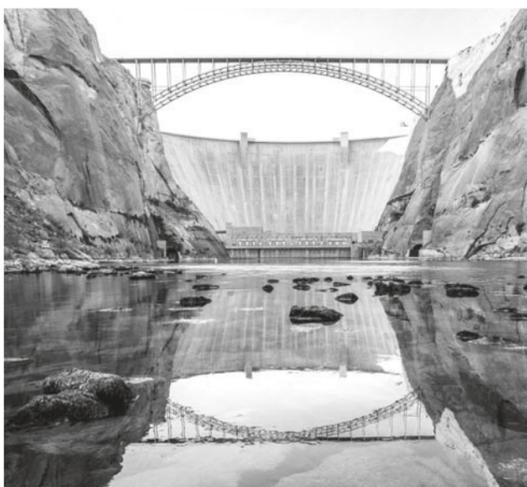
HERMISTON — The design committee of the Hermiston Senior Center will make a presentation showing centers visited and sites being considered.

The public is welcome to attend the meeting to provide ideas and feedback, including what types of events and activities they'd like to see at the center.

The meeting is Tuesday after the regular lunch meal service at noon at the senior center, 435 W. Orchard Ave., located on the Umatilla County Fairgrounds.

The lunch is \$3.50 for those over 50 and \$4 for those under 50. In addition, there's a 50 cents fee if you don't bring your own table service.

For more information, call 541-567-3582.



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## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

**Beau Edwards**  
 CONDON HIGH SCHOOL



Beau is the son of Blair and Tracy Edwards and he is currently a junior at Condon HS. He has been an active student leader while at CHS, being elected and serving as ASB Treasurer and Parliamentarian. He is a member of the CHS Honor Society, and he is currently taking college courses for dual credit through the early college program offered by Columbia Gorge Community College. He also has earned his Emergency Medical Responder certification and serves with the South Gilliam County Ambulance Service on emergency calls.

Beau is also very involved in co-curricular activities, being a member of the varsity football, basketball, and track teams since his Freshman year. He is also a member of the CHS International Club and traveled to Costa Rica in the Spring of 2013. He will join other members in March, 2015 on a trip to Europe as a result of fundraising efforts by the club members.

He has accomplished much both in and out of the classroom during his three years at CHS. He also has served his community as a result of his involvement in activities for the local food pantry and for the annual July 4th celebration. Beau is an outstanding student, a good citizen, and a fine young adult.

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From left: Peter Wong, Hillary Borrund, Mateusz Perkowski