

Hermiston students battle through books

Between the five elementary schools in Hermiston, 384 students participated in the Oregon Battle of the Books.

Kristi Smalley, elementary librarian, said students who read all 16 books on the list read a total of 446,123 words.

The top teams from each elementary school included: Desert View, Keagan McCann, Ryker McDonalds, Nicholas Purswell and Cameron Jones; Highland Hills, Mischa Meyer, Keston Depner, Everett Wicks and Gavin Doherty; Rocky Heights, Stephanie Booher, Elizabeth Doherty, Ashley Treadwell and Katelyn Wadkins; Sunset, Kendrick Ramirez, Karlie White, Mackinsey Miller and Hector Ramirez; and West Park, Alexis Torres, Anthony Torres, Bradley Hottman and Victor Baros.



Photo contributed by Kathy Uzzell
West Park Elementary School students Alexis Torres, Anthony Torres, Bradley Hottman and Victor Baros hold copies of some of the books on the 2015 list for the Oregon Battle of the Books.

Credit union provides AEDs for parks department



Photo contributed by Jennifer Rohrer
Donnie Cook, director of Pendleton Parks & Recreation, accepts a Rural Community Grant from Rick Guenther, Northwest Farm Credit Services relationship manager.

Northwest Farm Credit Services recently awarded the city of Pendleton Parks and Recreation with a Northwest FCS/CoBank Rural Community Grant Award.

The \$700 grant will be used for implementing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program at the Pendleton Recreation Center.

Deb Whittaker, Parks & Recreation special projects coordinator, said the department is grateful for the grant award, enabling the department to purchase AEDs.

"Since communities have begun providing access to AEDs in public areas, there

are hundreds of testimonials about lives saved," Whittaker said. "Because so many Pendleton citizens pass through our doors daily, for activities from special events to active sports, we felt the AED was a critical addition to our facility safety plan."

Northwest FCS is committed to helping rural communities succeed. This year, with support from CoBank, it has awarded 83 rural grants totaling nearly \$150,000. If you are a Northwest FCS customer and think your rural project may be eligible, visit www.northwestfcs.com for more information.



Photo contributed by Amber Rittenbach

Preschoolers visit wildlife refuge

Preschool children, including several from Playtime Education, enjoyed a recent visit to the McKay Creek National Wildlife Refuge. The children learned about birds and were able to view a Canadian goose through a spotting scope. The children were intrigued when told about how nests are put together by adult birds using their feet, beaks and mud.

THANK YOU

Animal rescue appreciates yard sale support

On behalf of Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue I would like to thank the community for the donations for the benefit yard sale to help the stray animals in need of vet care.

A big thank you goes out to the following businesses for their donations of raffle prizes to help support our efforts: Safeway, Dels Feed Store, Starbucks, Gemini Designs, all of Hermiston; Java Junkies in Umatilla, Sub Zero Lounge in Irrigon; Shari Jones, Scentsy representative in Boardman; and Winston Raw for beautiful wood creations.

Thank you to the fosters Carri, Kim, Katelynn, Monique, Mike and Marie that came to help at the yard sale and to all the people who came and gave donations and bought many items. These animals have been discarded to the streets, but thanks to the compassionate people in our community they get the vet care they need and the love they deserve.

Robin Barker
Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue

our community leaders, The Umapine Market, The Waterhole and the Umapine Adventist Church. Also, we need to brag on the many, many Umapine teenagers who stepped forward on their own to help collect roadside trash. Umapine kids rock! Overall we raised \$35 for the Ferndale library.

Shelley Murphy
Umapine

Thanks to all that helped at scene of four-car accident

On Saturday, March 14, 2015, I was involved in a motor vehicle accident. I had my two nieces, ages 3 and 5, with me. On this night we were traveling to watch the fireworks at Wildhorse Resort and Casino with family. The accident involved four vehicles, with my car being the last one involved.

I would like to say thank you to Oregon State Police Trooper Gunter, the Umatilla Tribal Fire Department and the kind people who helped me. I didn't realize the trauma and anxiety of it all until recently. My nieces and I were transported to St. Anthony Hospital and thankfully escaped with only bumps and bruises.

I wanted to share how grateful I am for the public safety in our community. I appreciate their response and support. Often times we forget to give them praise and honor when due, but surely they do deserve it!

Louisa M. Allman
Pendleton

Dance team honors veterans

I saw the performance of the Pendleton High School dance team Monday before they left for state. The patriotic theme honoring our veterans was tremendous and powerful! I will be surprised if they don't take first place.

Dorene Doran
Pendleton

Lavadour painting acquired through Ford Family program

The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Eugene received a \$22,000 award through The Ford Family Foundation's Art Acquisition Program. The museum will purchase "Torch" by James Lavadour with the funding.

Painted in 2012, the work represents the scale, richness and visual impact of Lavadour's complex, post-2000 explorations of Chinese painting, abstract expressionism and jazz. It is the first work by Lavadour in the museum's collection.

The program also distributed an additional \$73,690 to seven other Oregon arts organizations, according to the Oregon Arts Commission.

The Art Acquisition Fund, managed by the arts commission, helps visual arts institutions with publicly accessible collections acquire seminal works by Oregon visual artists. The effort preserves public access to great works and supports artists and the institutions that sustain their work.



Contributed photo

"Torch," an oil painting by James Lavadour, was recently acquired by Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Eugene through the Ford Family Foundation's Art Acquisition Program.

Awards help these institutions leverage organization and donor dollars to acquire works. In the five years of this program, 40

works of art by Oregon artists have been placed into permanent Oregon collections. For more information, visit www.tfff.org.

SUBMIT YOUR EO NEWS

Submit Your EO News information and high-resolution photos to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, or Renee Struthers-Hogge at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Umapine shines during area's Spring Clean event

Umapine is once again showing its community spirit.

On Sunday March 8, Umapine held our first annual Spring Clean. It would not have been possible without the help of many volunteers and community members. We would like to thank Umatilla County, Gina Millar and Humbert Refuse for providing us a free dumpster. We encourage others in Umatilla County to take advantage of this program.

We would like to thank Coke for once again providing their product and wagon to our thirsty volunteers. Thank you to Alex Laposi and Gary Key for handling our last-minute issues. As usual, we had the support of

BIRTHS

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton
MARCH 10, 2015

MCCOY — Summer E. McCoy and Clinton W. McCoy of Hermiston; a girl, Josie Marie McCoy.

MARCH 11, 2015

STOWERS-PELLS — Carlynn I. Stowers-Pells and Jonathan T. Stowers-Pells of Hermiston; a boy, Aiidin Lucas Stowers-Pells.

MARCH 15, 2015

KIRK — LaRain K.S. Kirk and Wacey T. Kirk of Pendleton; a girl, Ti'mine Leeann Kirk.

MARCH 17, 2015

BLAIR — Ashley L. Bidlen and Daron J. Blair of Pendleton; a girl, Dezeray Leanna Lynn Blair.

Good Shepherd Medical Center,
Hermiston

MARCH 14, 2015

WOODS — Taylor Iverson and Garrett Woods of Hermiston; a boy, Chance Dale John Woods.

MARCH 15, 2015

BIERHAUS — Rebecca LeGrand and John Bierhaus of Irrigon; a girl, Heidi Susan Bierhaus.

50TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

In honor of Keith and Karen Stanton

Please join us for a celebration
on April 4, 2015
The Pendleton Country Club
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
69772 Hwy 395 South, Pendleton, OR. 97801

No presents please – your presence is gift enough

Pet of the Week

Joey!
8 Month Old, Neutered Chihuahua, Short Coat/Peruvian Inca Orchid Cross

What a handsome young man. I have been graced with lots of energy and the love of play. The more attention I get, the better! Cuddling and being close is my most favorite pastime. Being rescued and given a loving forever home where I can spend my years in peace will be my dream come true.

Visit us at the Pioneer Humane Society/PAWS
517 SE 3rd St., Pendleton, OR
541-276-0181 • pendletonpaws.org

Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

NEEDED: Volunteer drivers to and from spay/neuter clinics. Call for more information.

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