

BRIEFLY

State board to select new EOU president Tuesday

Eastern Oregon University's search for a new president will come to an end Tuesday. The Oregon State Board of Higher Education will convene at noon to make a selection. The meeting will be livestreamed to the public at <https://livestream.com/eou> and a public reception with the new president will be held from 3-5 p.m. in the Gilbert Center on EOU's La Grande campus.

The Eastern Oregon University's newly created board of trustees has narrowed down three finalists for the position. They are Dickinson State University provost Cynthia Pemberton, Northwest Technical College chief academic officer Martin Tadlock and Boise Cascade area manager Tom Insko.

The board met in executive session last week to discuss the final three candidates but did not announce its top preference to the public. Until the Oregon State Board of Higher Education is dissolved on July 1 in favor of local university boards, the state board has the ultimate choice on the hiring of a new university president.

Wallowa-Whitman forest hires deputy supervisor

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest has hired Charles "Chuck" Oliver as its new deputy forest supervisor.

Oliver, who officially started on May 6, comes to Oregon from the Bitterroot National Forest in Darby, Montana, where he served as a district ranger. He earned his bachelor's degree in rangeland management and master's degree in agricultural economics at New Mexico State University, before going to work for the Forest Service as a range conservationist on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Butte, Montana.

"I am looking forward to all that Oregon has to offer," Oliver said. "I'm looking forward to Hells Canyon, the Snake River and rafting. I look forward to exploring new territory and mountain bike trails."

For the past 10 years, Oliver has worked to re-establish a forest timber sale program on the Bitterroot and managing the forest's complex fire systems. He also has experience working on the Reserve Ranger District of the Gila National Forest in New Mexico, and on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest in Colorado and Wyoming.

Wallowa-Whitman Forest Supervisor Tom Montoya said he looks forward to working with Oliver to find resolutions on complex and sometimes controversial resource management issues for the area's rural communities. Oliver can be reached at the Wallowa-Whitman forest offices at 541-523-6391.

Boardman City Council changes meeting schedule

BOARDMAN — Boardman City Council has reduced its regular meeting schedule and will meet just once per month, instead of

twice. Councilors had met on the first and third Tuesday of every month, but decided two meetings were unnecessary, said City Manager Karen Pettigrew. "They just felt they'd rather be here a little longer once per month," Pettigrew said. The city council will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. at City Hall. Special meetings will be posted for the public. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2.

Blue ribbons show police appreciation

HERMISTON — Blue ribbons popping up around town in Hermiston are being displayed in honor of National Law Enforcement Appreciation Week May 10-16 and it's not too late to get one.

The ribbons are provided for free by Concerns of Police Survivors, or COPS, an organization for the family members of officers killed in the line of duty.

The ribbons are meant to be displayed on car antennas as a visible show of gratitude to law enforcement officers. Cars without antennas can display them on mirrors or other parts of the car.

Ribbons can be picked up at Hermiston Police Department, Hermiston City Hall, the chamber of commerce, Ace Hardware, Banner Bank, Hermiston Drug, Washington Federal Bank and the *Hermiston Herald*.

Lions Club sets murder mystery, baked potato bar

A murder mystery and potato bar are planned by the Umatilla Irrigation Lions Club.

The fundraiser is Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. The Friday show is at the Umatilla Senior Center, 201 Seventh St., and the Saturday show is at the Family Worship Center, 330 N.E. Eighth St., Irrigon.

The cost is \$5 per person and includes a baked potato bar and dessert as well as coffee and water.

For more information, call Cathy Putnam at 541-922-3281.

Muddy Frogwater seeks vendors, parade participants

MILTON-FREEWATER — Parade and vendor applications are now being accepted for the 2015 Muddy Frogwater Festival, slated for the weekend of August 14-16. The parade will be held Friday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m.

All applications and required vendor documents can be downloaded from the Milton-Freewater Chamber of Commerce website, www.mfchamber.com, or call 541-938-5563 to have forms mailed to you.

Cattle Barons bring 5,000 to town; Toni Minthorn wins Legacy Award

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Toni Minthorn of Pendleton grew up on in a ranching family and has been around horses her whole life.

"I don't even remember learning how to ride," she recalled. "My family had horses and rodeoed, so we always rode."

From her earliest days she said she had a connection with horses. The animals brought her peace of mind and escape when she needed.

"Horses are accepting, they are understanding," she said, "they treat you like you treat them."

Minthorn, 54, has spent decades passing on that love of horses. And Saturday her efforts earned her the 2015 Pendleton Cattle Barons Legacy Award. Minthorn received the recognition at a bustling Pendleton Convention Center in the midst of what folks said was the largest Cattle Barons Weekend yet.

Cattle Barons president Marty Campbell told hundreds in the crowd that the award honors those who leave a legacy in ranching and agriculture and in the lives of children. Minthorn has led a life that embodies that, he said, including English riding lessons back East, training cutting horses in California and teaching area youth how to ride — including members of the Pendleton Round-Up court.

"She has put more into other people's lives than most of us ever will," he said.

Event organizer Pat Beard said Minthorn, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, deserved the respect.

"She has touched thousands of lives," he said in an email. Minthorn also hauls horses for the Happy Canyon



Staff photo by Kathy Aney

A competitor in the Cowboy Mounted Shooting Association Shoot Out eyes his next target Saturday morning at the Round-Up Grounds.

princess appearances, he said, and is a former Happy Canyon and Pendleton Round-Up court member.

Beard also reported auction sales and attendance records were set for the annual weekend event that raises money for college scholarships.

More than 5,000 people attended Cattle Barons, he said, and tickets were sold out Friday night for the team branding event and again Saturday for the North American Stock Saddle Bronc Championship.

The crowd also spilled into the upper bleachers at the Pendleton Convention Center for Saturday's gelding and working dog auctions. Siroco Skip Dotcom, a gray quarter horse owned by Oliver Stentzel of New Plymouth, Idaho, topped the sale at \$27,000. Beard also reported

the total sale average for horses was \$8,175 per head. The high selling working dog sold for \$6,000.

But the real winners were four students, who each took home a \$1,000 scholarship.

Willie Wood of Helix was recipient of the event sponsor's Protect the Harvest scholarship for his essay.

Jared Livingston, Pendleton, received the Clayton Livingston Beef Production Scholarship. It honors Jared's father Clayton, a local rancher, who died in 2013.

And Angel Murrillo of White Salmon, Washington, and Makenzi Hughes of Heppner, received scholarships as well.

Minthorn received her award to cap the presentations before the auction. She said as a young person she doubted herself, but good mentors taught her a lot about riding

and about believing in herself. Someone might have more money or fancier clothes, but Minthorn learned that did not make them a better person.

About 25 years ago, she was deeply involved in a large 4-H club, and members each year took animals for show at the Umatilla County Fair. She recalled a boy from the club in the early 1990s who worked hard, but his parents were limited in what they could provide. She said she helped him as she would any other student.

At that year's fair, the boy's father asked Minthorn, who does not have children of her own, why she worked so hard to help the kids.

The reply came from the loudspeaker, she said, with the announcement the boy won his class. She said giving the opportunity of success to a child is what it is about.

Defendant in federal lawsuit says Kerby still a concern

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

The target of a civil lawsuit from a Milton-Freewater man acquitted of child rape defended herself Tuesday in federal court.

Gay Davis, Oregon Department of Human Services social worker, testified at trial she believed Randell Kerby raped his adopted daughter even after a Umatilla County jury's unanimous not guilty verdict in 2011 in circuit court. She ruled Kerby still could not return home until the state human services deemed he was not a threat.

Davis delivered that news to the Kerbys moments after the acquittal. The action led the Kerbys to sue her in federal court for violating their due process rights and for lacking the legal authority to prevent him from going home.

Davis on the stand said Kerby needed to undergo a psycho-sexual evaluation, a standard to assess risk. But he

never did, she said, and that raised red flags for the human services department. She also said it was concerning that Cheryl Kerby did not seek the counseling the department requested.

Davis also said Kerby's daughter told her she revealed the rape because her father was targeting her sibling. Heather Van Meter, attorney for the Oregon Department of Justice, asked Davis if she believed Randell Kerby raped the girl.

"Absolutely," Davis said. "Why else would his semen be found in the exact spot she said it would?"

The girl never changed her story about the crime no matter who she told, Davis said. Since the verdict,

nothing has changed Davis' mind about the girl's truthfulness.

Randell and Chery Kerby were present in the courtroom, along with three of their children.

Judge Michael W. Mosman is presiding over the trial at the John F. Kilkenny

United States Courthouse, Pendleton. The parties could present closing arguments Tuesday, and the outcome will rest in the hands of six jurors.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

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Thank you Pendleton!
Your warm welcome is very much appreciated. Please extend a warm welcome to **Kelly Knight**. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge to our practice. She is the newest addition to our already wonderful staff.

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