BRIEFLY

Pendleton superintendent receives Doug Flatt Leadership award

PENDLETON — After serving as a Pendleton educator and administrator for 25 years, Pendleton School District Superintendent Jon Peterson was honored Wednesday for his leadership at the Crystal Apple Awards ceremony at the Red Lion in Pendleton.

According to an Intermountain Education Service District press release, Peterson received the Doug Flatt

Leadership Award, which is awarded to a Umatilla, Morrow or Union county administrator each year.

The award is cosponsored by the Intermountain Education Service District and Mid Columbia Bus Co.

While Peterson credited much of his success to the people he works with, IMESD Superintendent Mark Mulvihill lauded Peterson for his continued support of the district's most disadvantaged students.



"He understands and cares for people and is an incredible listener," Mulvihill said. "I have been around few administrators as adept at making a tough decision, yet maintaining trust and appreciation from those directly impacted."

The son of a former Pendleton superintendent, Peterson started his career as a teacher in Gresham and Hood River

After returning to his hometown, Peterson worked as a math teacher, guidance counselor and assistant principal at Pendleton High School from 1990 to 2003.

Following his career at Pendleton High School, Peterson served stints as the principal of Washington Elementary School, Lincoln Primary School, West Hills Intermediate School and Sunridge Middle School before he was hired as district superintendent in 2009.

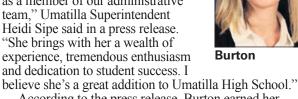
Past winners of the Doug Flatt Leadership Award include Wade Smith, deputy superintendent of the Hermiston School District, and Jerry Copeland, superintendent of the Athena-Weston School District.

Burton hired as Umatilla HS principal

UMATILLA — The Umatilla School District has hired Beth Burton as the principal at Umatilla High School, effective July 1. She will replace Scott Depew, who resigned earlier this spring after

accepting the assistant principal position at Hermiston High School. Burton is currently the superintendent for the Imbler School

"I am thrilled to have Beth Burton as a member of our administrative team," Umatilla Superintendent Heidi Sipe said in a press release. "She brings with her a wealth of experience, tremendous enthusiasm



According to the press release, Burton earned her bachelor's degree in English from Washington State University, her master's degree in teaching from George Fox University and her administrative degree from Western Governors University.

Burton

Previously, she worked as a high school athletic director, language arts teacher, college prep teacher and district test coordinator, serving in the Molalla River and Arlington school districts prior to Imbler.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to news@ eastoregonian.com

HERMISTON

Little Einsteins, Sacageweas at Highland Hills

Students get into character for Living History Museum

> By JADE MCDOWELL East Oregonian

Abraham Lincoln, Walt Disney and Rosa Parks rubbed shoulders Friday at Highland Hills Elementary School during the school's fifth annual Living History Museum.

The pint-sized historical figures were actually first-graders dressed up as their heroes from American history. They stood at the ready near displays and hand-made "artifacts" as parents and older students filtered through the gym, pushing a button to bring the historical figure to life.

"I was the greatest escape artist because I could unlock any lock," Damion Douglas, a.k.a. Harry Houdini, told onlookers as he escaped from a set of handcuffs.

His mother Eboney Douglas said her son had been working on the project for weeks.

"He did most of it at school but he

did research at home and watched old Houdini movies," she said.

Sondra Vo, dressed as Betsy Ross, said her teacher loaned her the red,

"I picked Betsy Ross because she was famous for making the first American flag," she said.

white and blue dress she was wearing.

Meanwhile Joseth Bazan, wearing an unruly gray wig, was playing the part of Albert Einstein. He said he had fun learning about the famous physi-



First grader Joseth Bazan, playing the part of Albert Einstein, talks about Einstein's life at the Highland Hills Elementary Living History Museum.

"He's good at science and he knows everything," Joseth said.

The 71 first graders who came together to create the museum represented a wide swath of history. Boys in powdered wigs or felt beards represented a number of U.S. presidents. Several girls dressed up as Sacagewea, while others found inspiration from Eleanor Roosevelt or Jane Goodall.

Teacher Carolina Seibel said the students are given a list of suggestions, but they're free to choose whatever historical figure they would like and each year there are a few unique ones.

"We had some new religious figures this year," she said.

The school used a Hermiston Education Foundation Grant to purchase costumes for a few favorites, like Amelia Earhart and Neil Armstrong, but families are encouraged to help their children to design their own costumes

Seibel said the whole project helps bring history alive for the students each year in a more exciting way than filling out a test or a worksheet.

"It's something they'll never forget," she said.

HERMISTON

City council to get police camera demo

By JADE MCDOWELL East Oregonian

Anyone curious about Hermiston Police Department's new body cameras can find out more at the Hermiston City Council's work session before its regular meeting Tuesday.

Chief Jason Edmiston will provide a demonstration of the cameras for the city council and answer their questions at 6 p.m. at city hall.

Police have been using the body cameras for a little over a month to capture traffic stops, arrests and other police action. Citizens are notified when the officer is recording the interaction, and the video

is subject to public records requests.

During its regular 7 p.m. meeting, which was moved to Tuesday to avoid Memorial Day, the council will discuss two resolutions related to a repaving project at the Hermiston Municipal Airport.

The first authorizes the city manager to sign an intergovernmental agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation to perform pavement maintenance at the airport. The second authorizes him to sign a similar agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration. The crack-sealing and re-striping project slated for this summer will cost an estimated \$111,448 and will be paid for with FAA grant funds.

The council will also be asked to authorize - first as city councilors and then reconvening as the Urban Renewal Agency — an adjustment to the repayment terms of the city's \$50,000 loan to the URA.

≰¥ Special Memorial Day Offers ★≭

The loan was given to jump start the agency's façade grant program until the new Urban Renewal District started generating funds of its own. The amendment allows the agency to wait to start paying back the loan until the Urban Renewal District has earned at least \$50,000 in revenue or been in existence for at least 10 years.

Contact Jade McDowell at jmcdowell@eastoregonian. com or 541-564-4536.



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