

HERMISTON

Former teacher buys student-built home

Construction to begin on second home in several weeks

By SEAN HART
East Oregonian

A former Hermiston educator is set to be the first to turn the key on the inaugural student-built home in Hermiston.

Hermiston School District deputy superintendent Wade Smith announced Tim and Linda Turner placed the high bid of \$330,033 for the Columbia Basin Student Homebuilder Program's first home at Monday's school board meeting.

The Turners' bid was well above the \$268,500 reserve price. Smith said Tim Turner, a former teacher for the district, had been excited to try to purchase the 2,050-square-foot home at 895 W. Angus Court.

"He and his wife have been stopping by the house consistently for the last three or four months," Smith said. "It's kind of neat to see him be the successful bidder."

Smith said the district is still working with the Turners to finalize the sale, but plans for the second student-built home were submitted to the city building department Monday morning. Smith

said foundation work on the second home should begin in several weeks and by the beginning of the school year the students will probably be framing the walls.

In the program's second year, Smith said more core students will be involved and will spend more time at the site each day. Roughly 75 to 100 students, including those taking horticulture and shop classes, participated in some aspects of the first home. But 12 core students spent the most time at the site, a number that will likely be increased to 17 this year, he said. Instead of a two-hour time period at the site each day, he said the students will also be able to spend up to three and a half hours a day working on the home.

"We wanted to start with a smaller group of students, more of an intimate group, so we could make sure we had a good understanding of what we're getting ourselves into (the first year)," he said.

Smith said the first year of the program was "amazingly successful." He said the Oregon School Boards Association has even invited the district to present information about the program as a model for other districts to replicate at the annual convention in November.

BRIEFLY

Council sends proposed zoning rules back to commission

UMATILLA — After two months of considering a proposed overhaul of Umatilla's commercial zone rules, the city council sent the planning commission back to the drawing board Monday.

The planning commission began writing a comprehensive set of regulations in October 2014, creating two new types of commercial zones and detailing which categories of businesses are allowed in each commercial zone after citizens pushed the city to do something about the proliferation of adults-only businesses downtown.

But City Manager Bob Ward said some city councilors voiced the opinion that Umatilla had a reputation for being unfriendly to businesses and that new, more stringent commercial zone rules would reinforce that negative image.

Councilor Mel Ray made a motion to remand the rules back to the planning commission for revision during a special city council meeting Monday. The motion passed 3-2.

"I believe the intent is for the council and planning commission to sit down at some point in the future to discuss the vision and purpose," Ward said.

The council also passed a resolution extending the city's moratorium on new adult businesses, which was set to run out Tuesday, for another 110 days.

"There is a lot of work cut out for both the council and the planning commission and I don't think this is something that will be resolved quickly," said Ward, about moratoriums on both adult businesses and marijuana dispensaries.



15-year-old arrested for armed robbery of 7-Eleven

HERMISTON — Hermiston police arrested a 15-year-old early Tuesday on suspicions he robbed a convenience store at gunpoint.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston in a written statement reported officers at 12:24 a.m. responded to 7-Eleven, 775 S. Highway 395, on a report that an armed robbery just occurred. Hermiston police, along with officers from neighboring Stanfield and Umatilla police and the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, searched the area for the suspect — a younger, darker-complexion male wearing a purple and yellow basketball jersey, with a bandanna, black T-shirt and carrying a black bag with an unknown amount of money.

About an hour into the investigation, Hermiston police Capt. Darryl Johnson saw a teenage boy matching the description in the area of East Jennie Avenue and Northeast Third Street.

"The male fled on foot but was eventually caught," according to Edmiston.

Officers detained the teen and seized a black Wells Fargo bag with money police believed to be from the crime, Edmiston reported, along with a loaded handgun.

Edmiston also said Hermiston detectives questioned the teen before booking him with the county's juvenile department in Pendleton.

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



Photo contributed by Angelika Dietrich

Chief Joseph Days kicks off July 21 and runs through Saturday, July 25 in Joseph.

Chief Joseph Days celebrates 70 years of Western heritage

East Oregonian

It's been 70 years since Harley Tucker started the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo on the east moraine above Wallowa Lake.

A local stock contractor, Tucker started the local event that attracted area ranchers who came to show their skills in riding, roping, and other contests that reflected the life of a working cowboy. Today, Chief Joseph Days draws top cowboys from around the country, competing in hopes of winning their way to the National Finals Rodeo.

In a fitting tribute to Tucker, who died at the age of 57 of a heart attack, the queen for the 70th annual Chief Joseph Days is Addie Kilgore, the last of the Tucker great-granddaugh-

ters to serve on the court. Kilgore follows cousins Paige Bailey (queen 2008) and Kylie Willis (queen 2012) — also, their mothers all served on the rodeo court, as did their grandmother, Darlene Tucker Turner. Kilgore's court includes princesses Marli Tracy-Mallory and Jesse Ellen Woodhead.

For the full Chief Joseph Days experience, plan on arriving Tuesday, July 21 for the 1:30 p.m. Bucking Horse Stampede down Joseph's Main Street. The event kicks off the week's festivities.

During rodeo performances, organizers encourage visitors to sit on the north side of the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena. The seats feature the Wallowa Mountains as a stunning backdrop.

Rodeo action runs nightly Wednesday, July 22 through Saturday, July 25 at 7 p.m. Rodeo tickets for Wednesday are \$14 (free for ages 6 and under), Thursday, \$14 each; Friday, \$17 for covered reserve or \$15 for general admission; and Saturday are \$20 and \$17.

The fast flying Tuck-ettes open each rodeo performance, and six-time comedy act of the year winner The Wild Child thrills audiences with death-defying motorcycle stunts and pyrotechnics.

The Wednesday performance is family night. In addition to top cowboys, it features little buckaroos and high school bull riders just starting their careers. Thursday is Tough Enough to Wear Pink, so don pink duds and help support

cancer screenings. The action keeps building with Friday and Saturday night performances. Afterwards, people can walk to the adjacent Thunder Room to enjoy music and dancing.

During the day, visitors are encouraged to stroll down Main Street's shops and boutiques. In addition vendors fill the streets with specialty western gear, American Indian jewelry and crafts, as well as corn dogs, curly fries and kettle corn.

On Friday morning, Main Street comes alive at 10 a.m. with the Kiddie Parade, for entrants age 12 and younger. The Chief Joseph Days Grand Parade is Saturday at 10 a.m.

For more information, a full schedule of events or to purchase rodeo tickets, visit www.chiefjosephdays.com.

Tribes buy property at Lookingglass Creek

Goal to protect native fish, wildlife

By GEORGE PLAVERN
East Oregonian

After showing years of interest in the property, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation bought 666 acres in Union County that includes two miles of Lookingglass Creek.

The tribes paid \$1.764 million for the land on June 1, which will be reimbursed from the Bonneville Power Administration through the 2008 Fish Accords.

Kelly George, land acquisition coordinator for the CTUIR, said the area will be managed by the tribes' Department of Natural Resources for the protection of native fish and wildlife habitat. Lookingglass Creek is home to spring chinook, summer steelhead and bull trout as its focal species.

"The water is cold, clean and clear," George said. "A key point in this acquisition was to preserve the fish habitat in Lookingglass Creek."

The tribes have been interested in buying the property from the Nielsen



Photo contributed by Kelly George

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation recently purchased 666 acres of land that includes two miles of Lookingglass Creek in Union County.

"It is truly a pristine property, rich with natural resources."

— Kelly George, land acquisition coordinator for the CTUIR

Gifting Trust for more than five years, George said. The property, located north of Elgin on Palmer Junction Road, will remain locked and access limited to tribal members.

"It is truly a pristine property, rich with natural resources," she said. "Having visited the property myself, I believed this (land) should be for our

people."

The tribes are working to develop a management plan for the property, which includes six ponds and five cabins. A ceremony was

held June 26 to celebrate the purchase.

Contact George Plaven at gplaven@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0825.

FARM CITY
PRO RODEO

Kids aged 4 - 7 years weighing 55 lbs or less

Mutton Bustin' Sign-ups

FIESTA FOODS
July 22, 2015
Sign up - 6:00 pm
Draw - 7:00 pm

Child and parent or guardian must be present for sign-ups and weigh-in. Insurance documents must be signed. 24 contestants will be chosen from a blind draw.

We've Moved!

CHI St. Anthony Hospital

Family Clinic
Walk-Ins Welcome
Appointments Preferred

Monday through Friday 8:00am - 6:00pm

541-966-0535
3001 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton
Located in the hospital medical office building

Earn While You Learn Program

At Community Bank we recognize the importance of education and would like to encourage our student-customers in their academic success.

Find out how your kids can earn money for their good grades!

The annual program is available through July, ask your banker about it today or see details online.

Local Money Working For Local People
www.communitybanknet.com

Pendleton 157 S Main St 541-278-9000	Hermiston 50 E Theater Ln 541-289-4480	Milton-Freewater 504 N Main St 541-938-6361
---	---	--

Member FDIC