

PENDLETON

# Chair-ity Auction raises cash for medical loan closet

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

The public will have an opportunity to grab a seat and help raise money to support the Clearview Disability Resource Center Medical Loan Closet.

In its second year, the Chair-ity Dinner and Auction features themed chairs people can bid on. On the auction block will be two dozen chairs, including one from the Oregon State Capitol donated by Sen. Bill Hansell. Also, themed chairs will feature the Oregon Ducks, the Seattle Seahawks and a camping package, said Carol Umbarger of Clearview Mediation.

"We have had really good response from those making and creating the chairs," Umbarger said. "They have fun with it."

The Chair-ity Auction and dinner is Saturday, Oct. 17 with a social hour at 5 p.m. at the Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate. The cost is \$30 per person. The buffet-style meal, which is at 6 p.m., features tri-tip, baby red potatoes, green beans, salad and cobbler. The chairs go up for auction at 7 p.m.

Umbarger said some of the businesses have been mum about the chairs they plan to donate, but she expects the event will be fun for everyone. In addition, it serves as the sole fundraiser for the medical closet, which checks out needed medical equipment like library



Chairs and associated gifts are lined up for the inaugural Chair-ity Dinner and Auction. In its second year, the Saturday, Oct. 17 event will help raise money for Clearview Disability Resource Center's Medical Loan Closet.

Photo contributed by Carol Umbarger

books. Money is used to help transport items as well as providing needed repairs to equipment.

Umbarger, along with her husband, Darrin, began developing the disability resource center from their kitchen table in 2008 — receiving nonprofit status the following year. Darrin, who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1988, was motivated to assist others in need.

The Medical Loan Closet sprouted from Umbarger's own progression with multiple sclerosis, which resulted in the need of different types of equipment, sometimes for short periods of time.

Medical equipment that people are no longer using that someone else might benefit from is loaned for one to three months through the program. That includes everything from walkers and

bedside commodes to wheelchairs and hospital beds.

Equipment is cleaned, inspected and repaired for others to use. Clearview has been providing the free service to the community for five years. The fundraiser assists in providing continued support for the program.

For more information about the Medical Loan Closet or to reserve a ticket for the Chair-ity Dinner and Auction, contact 541-276-1130, clearviewoffice23@gmail.com or stop by 307 S.W. Sixth St., Pendleton. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at [tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com](mailto:tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4539

# Hermiston man dies in crash, woman injured

East Oregonian

A Hermiston man died and a woman suffered injuries Saturday morning near Paterson, Washington, when their car crashed into a semi.

Alfredo S. Rivera, 69, died at the scene, according to a press notification from Washington State Patrol. His passenger, Manuela M. Rivera, 64, of Hermiston, required an emergency flight to Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland, Washington.

Washington State Patrol reported charges are pending for the semi's driver, Pablo G. Cancino, 48, also of Hermiston.

Alfredo Rivera was driving a maroon 1999 Oldsmobile Bravada westbound on Highway 14 about 10 miles east of Paterson when Cancino at about 5:40 a.m. turned the semi east onto the highway from the entrance to Agri-Northwest. Cancino cut off the sports utility vehicle, Washington State Patrol reported, which slammed into the semi.

Washington State Patrol reported investigators did not know if the Riveras were wearing seat belts, but no alcohol or drugs were involved in the collision. Hermiston police notified relatives of the death.

A Pendleton woman was involved in a separate crash Saturday at about 5:40 p.m. near Prosser, Washington, involving seven vehicles and the death of an eight-month old boy.

All seven were southbound on State Route 221, according to Washington State Patrol, where a dust storm made it hard to see, causing the wrecks. The 66-year-old Pendleton resident was one of four people who were not injured in the smash up.

The infant died at Prosser Memorial Hospital, Prosser, and ambulances took seven people to area hospitals, including a 7-year-old boy and a 17-year-old girl.

BRIEFLY

## Infant dies in Irrigon

IRRIGON — A six-week-old boy died Monday after being rushed from an Irrigon home to Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston.

According to a press release from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, the mother of the child called dispatch at 10:58 a.m. frantic because her son was not breathing. The dispatcher relayed the information to nearby deputies and began to give emergency directions to the woman, but the woman was too hysterical to follow them and phone contact was broken.

When dispatch called back, another woman answered and the dispatcher began relaying emergency instructions to her.

Deputies arrived within three minutes of the initial call, according to MCSO, and deputy Oscar Madrigal began CPR. An Irrigon ambulance arrived eight minutes later and transported the infant to Good Shepherd, where he was declared dead by emergency room medical staff.

Brian Snyder, an MCSO detective, was assigned to investigate the death and in an initial report found no signs of foul play. The investigation is ongoing and an autopsy is scheduled for Tuesday.

The parents and child were visiting from out of town.

## Fire destroys house, displaces two in Boardman

BOARDMAN — Fire destroyed a house Saturday on the 100 block of Northwest Columbia Avenue in Boardman.

Nobody was hurt in the blaze, said Boardman Fire Chief Marc Rogelstad. The American Red Cross assisted two adults who were displaced by the fire.

Rogelstad said they have suspicions about what started the fire, but have not confirmed a cause. It is not being investigated for arson.

Rogelstad said more information would be available Tuesday.

## Umatilla County mailing ballots Wednesday

PENDLETON — Umatilla County Elections Division plans to mail ballots Wednesday for the Nov. 3 election.

Only voters in the city of Pendleton and

within the Umatilla Fire Protection District will receive ballots, according to a written statement from the elections division. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 13, and voters who are registered can update their registration and receive a ballot up until 8 p.m. on election day.

The county elections division also encouraged voters to use a ballot drop box to ensure the ballot reaches the elections office by 8 p.m. on elections day.

The county has placed a new ballot box at the rear entrance of Umatilla City Hall, 700 Sixth St., Umatilla, across from the utility payment drop box. The county also moved the Pendleton drop box to a safer location in the rear parking lot of the county courthouse at 216 S.E. Fourth St..

Candidate filing packets for the May 17, 2016, primary election are available in the election office and online at [www.umatillacounty.net/elections](http://www.umatillacounty.net/elections) for the open county positions of county commissioner position 3 and the Umatilla County sheriff. The last day to file is March 8, 2016.

## Arts center offers line dance instruction

PENDLETON — If you've always wanted to learn line dancing, the Pendleton Center for the Arts has the class for you. April Dyntera will teach a full-day workshop Saturday, Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the arts center, 214 N. Main St.

Dyntera will cover a range of dances and musical genres, proving that line dancing is not just for country enthusiasts. Even if you're a line dance aficionado, the workshop will teach you a few new moves. The day will feature upbeat, moderate-paced dancing with brief breaks every hour; a one-hour lunch break includes optional no-host lunch delivery from the Great Pacific Wine and Coffee Co.

Cost to attend is \$30 at the door, or \$25 if pre-registered by Oct. 14. For more information, or to register, call the arts center at 541-278-9201.

Submit information to: [community@eastoregonian.com](mailto:community@eastoregonian.com) or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

# Environmental analysis released for forest management of Elkhorn

By GEORGE PLAVERN  
East Oregonian

The U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management say plans to treat 47,000 acres of trees on the east face of the Elkhorn Mountains would have little to no impact on health, safety and natural resources.

An environmental analysis of the East Face Vegetation Management Project also says the proposal would not affect any farmland, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers or critical habitat.

The public has until Friday, Nov. 6 to comment on the analysis, which outlines how the project and each of five alternatives would influence everything from fish and wildlife to recreation and scenery.

The East Face Vegetation Management Project calls for thinning forest fire fuels south of La Grande and north of the North Fork John Day Wilderness, including the popular Anthony Lakes recreation area. One of the alternatives could incorporate up to 10,442 acres of commercial logging in the woods.

Most management would take place in the La Grande and Whitman districts of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, along with a smaller chunk of land managed by the BLM. The plan is intended to complement work already being done by adjacent landowners, with funding from the Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service.

This public-private partnership has become a model for the National Cohesive Wildfire Strategy, adopted in

2009 to make communities more resilient and better protected against wildfires. Wallowa-Whitman Forest Supervisor Tom Montoya said collaboration will help ensure projects that reduce fire fuels and promote healthier vegetation are closely coordinated.

"This effort has truly made this project an integral part of the 'all hands, all lands' principle," Montoya said.

Private landowners, state and federal agencies all joined together to form the East Face of the Elkhorn Mountains Partnership, which in turn came up with the management project. In 2014, the NRCS funded \$1.4 million for 33 contracts with forest landowners in Union and Baker counties, spanning more than 3,000 acres.

The long-term goal is to create healthier forests that are better suited to withstand fire and protect both homes and infrastructure. It also aims to reduce the threat of fire to local watersheds that provide water for cities, irrigation and fish.

La Grande District Ranger Bill Gamble said in a previous interview that foresters are particularly interested in

thinning trees around existing roads and on ridge tops to form strategic breaks where firefighters can safely catch fires.

No new permanent roads are proposed for the project, though foresters would temporarily reopen about 105 miles of existing closed roads in order to support loggers. Gamble said some of those roads could be stay open if they do not pose any threat to resources or exceed the allowable road density.

The project would amend the Wallowa-Whitman forest plan twice to allow for logging in a designated old-growth forest near Twin Mountains, as well as within the allocated backcountry area near Anthony Lakes. No old-growth trees would be cut down, focusing instead on smaller ladder fuels.

The East Face Vegetation Management Project environmental analysis is available on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest website at [www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman](http://www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman).

Contact George Plaven at [gplaven@eastoregonian.com](mailto:gplaven@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0825.

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**The Bike Pit**

Pilot Rock OHV, Inc., "The Bike Pit", would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the following individuals and organizations for all their hard work, equipment and \$\$ needed to help us complete the track renovation from Aug. 14 to Oct. 18.

Tyrel Burns	Austin Burns
Bill Patterson	Jordan Smith
Jay Johnson	Keri Dunnington
Justin Alznauer	Mike Schubert
Kash Leon	Rod Smith
Mike Gatlin	Shawn Gatlin
Mike McNilly	Jeff Hemphill
Robert Winkler	Grant Parker
Jeff Mills	Justin Parker
Jeff Waggoner	Doherty Welding, LLC
Eileen Waggoner	Hadden Excavating
Wayne Bedard	Hatley Construction
Steve Depner	Woodpecker Truck
Paul Villavicencio	Byrnes Oil
Carl Dagget	NWB Sales, Inc.
Michelle Casady	Doherty Fence, LLC

Without the help from all of you, we could not have accomplished what we did!

## Tri-Cities Native Returns Home

Dr. Guy Jones, a Hanford High School graduate, has just joined the medical team at your Tri-Cities Cancer Center as our third radiation oncologist.

Most recently Dr. Jones served as the Chief Resident for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the National Institute of Health (NIH).

- NCI is the government's foremost cancer research and training authority.
- NIH is the leading research center for medicine in the world.

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