

BOARDMAN



Children pet the horses while waiting their turn for a carriage ride at Boardman Kiwanis Club's fifth annual Breakfast with Santa.



Luz Gutierrez, right, stuffs tinsel into an ornament next to her brother Alberto Gutierrez and Maria Richards, left, during Boardman's Breakfast with Santa.

Santa Claus comes to breakfast

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

It was a full house at the Boardman Senior Center all morning on Saturday at the Boardman Kiwanis Club's fifth annual Breakfast with Santa.

Volunteers in the kitchen kept the pancakes coming, while families took pictures with Santa Claus, made Christmas ornaments and took rides on a horse-drawn carriage outside.

Anna Browne said she has been taking her children to the event since it began.

"It's a fun activity and the kids enjoy it," she said.

Browne said the nice thing about living in a small community like Boardman is that at events like the Breakfast with Santa, most people know each other.

"It's a really fun community activity because everyone is here and you get to see everyone and celebrate the season," she said.

Browne said she was grateful for the Boardman Kiwanis Club for gathering sponsors and putting together the event. The club goes above and beyond what many small-town Kiwanis Clubs do in order to make sure children have a safe place to celebrate various holidays, she said, and people don't always appreciate how much work that takes.

Children who took part in the event got a few mementos besides their



Marissa Sorensen, 9, sits on Santa's lap during Boardman's Breakfast with Santa.

"It's a really fun community activity because everyone is here and you get to see everyone and celebrate the season."

— Anna Browne, Boardman mother

memories of meeting St. Nick. A table off to one side was filled with clear plastic balls, sparkling tinsel, candy and stickers that children could use to make their own unique Christmas ornament. Children who took a photo with Santa also got handed a bag of Christmas goodies, with the promise that their photo would be emailed to their parents later.

Karen Pettigrew, who

was selling tickets at the door, said she enjoys volunteering for the event each year to give local families more things to do in Boardman.

"I just like to see all these families come out for a nice event in town," she said.

Shari Stokoe said it was her first year volunteering at the event after joining Kiwanis two years ago, but she was enjoying it so

far. Her favorite thing, she said, was seeing all of the cute little kids dressed up in Christmas outfits.

"Kiwanis does a lot of raising money for kids in town, but this is one where we get to be involved directly with the kids," she said.

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PENDLETON

Heifer drive beefs up UCCA scholarship

Fund doubles to nearly \$120,000

By GEORGE PLAVEN
East Oregonian

The Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association more than doubled its memorial scholarship fund in 2015 after auctioning off 37 heifers donated by local ranchers.

Producers in Umatilla and Morrow counties donated the animals, which were raised on Double M Ranch in Stanfield and auctioned in September. Other farms also gave cash or in-kind contributions, helping the UCCA Memorial Scholarship grow from \$47,734 at the end of 2014 to nearly \$120,000 today.

UCCA awards annual scholarships to students who graduated high school in either Umatilla or Morrow counties and are pursuing an agriculture-related degree in college. The 2015 scholarships were awarded to Tess Hamby, of Pilot Rock, studying pre-vet at Eastern Oregon University, and Maggie Collins, of Heppner,



A group of 37 heifers were donated and auctioned off in September to support the Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association Memorial Scholarship.

studying agriculture and teaching at Oregon State University. Both received scholarships for \$1,500, which were announced Saturday at the UCCA annual meeting in Pendleton.

Randy Mills, extension livestock agent for OSU, said the idea for a heifer drive started last year with Mike and Patsy Taylor of Double M Ranch and Top Cut Feedlot. They agreed to take on the additional cattle and raised the animals from March through October.

The heifer auction was the first major fundraiser for the UCCA Memorial Scholarship since the fund was

established in 1992. Mills said the association will now be able to offer more or larger scholarships to local students in future years.

"The investment of the beef industry in this two-county area just shows how important the education of our youth is," Mills said.

More than 40 ranches, businesses and individuals contributed to the fundraiser, with Double M-Top Cut Feedlot listed as the premiere

sponsor. UCCA has already deposited \$73,859 from the heifer drive, and more is expected to come.

UCCA President Clint Sexson said the community stepped up in a big way to support the scholarship.

"There's tremendous support for the youth in this community," Sexson said.

Melinda Platt, co-chairwoman of the UCCA Scholarship Committee, said promoting education in agriculture sciences is near and dear to everyone who donated.

The UCCA Memorial Scholarship is set up through the Oregon Community Foundation. For more information about the scholarship fund, or to make a donation, contact Mills at the OSU Extension Service office at 541-278-5403.

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

Man blames road rage during arrest for drunk driving

East Oregonian

A College Place man blamed road rage after trying to outrun a trooper, according to Oregon State Police.

A trooper Friday at about 10:45 p.m. saw a red sports utility vehicle turn onto East Ferndale Road, and right behind was a fast-moving white Toyota pickup. As the pickup turned onto Ferndale, according to state police, the driver almost lost control.

Both vehicles continued on the road at a high speed before the SUV stopped at the stop sign at Tum-A-Lum and turned north. The pickup, though, failed to signal and blew past the sign, coming close to ramming the back of the SUV.

They drove north on Tum-A-Lum, then, and the SUV slowed. The pickup continued but in the south-bound lane, driving beside the SUV.

State police reported the

pickup appeared to try to cut off the SUV before speeding off. That's when the trooper activated his police car's lights, and the driver did not stop but tapped the brakes and stayed northbound. The trooper turned on the siren, and the pickup drove a bit longer before pulling over.

Brandon Neal Low Webb, 23, told the trooper it was "a road rage issue" with the red SUV, which he claimed had cut him off in Washington. Webb told the trooper he was trying to get the other vehicle's license plate number.

But the trooper observed Webb was impaired, and he failed a sobriety test. His blood alcohol level, according to state police, was .15 percent, about twice the legal limit of .08 percent.

The trooper arrested Webb and booked him into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, for attempt to elude/flee, driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless driving and recklessly endangering another.

PENDLETON

Round-Up invites community to celebrate award-winning year

East Oregonian

The Pendleton Round-Up Association has had a remarkable year, and will throw a party this week to celebrate.

The Round-Up, Happy Canyon, Pendleton Chamber of Commerce and Travel Pendleton are hosting a reception Thursday from 4-6 p.m. at the Roy Raley Room at the Pendleton Round-Up Grounds.

This year the rodeo won both the PRCA Large Outdoor Rodeo of the Year buckle and the Remuda trophy. The celebration will also help kick of the Happy Canyon's 100th anniversary year.

"We could not have achieved the success we enjoyed without the support of our volunteers and community," said Round-Up President Bill Levy in a press release, listing the accomplishments from 2015.

Along with winning the awards, footage from the Round-Up was featured in a orchestrated documentary by Sufjan Stevens at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and in the Charlie Daniels song about the NFR called "It Don't Get No Better Than That."

The arena was also home for the first time to Pendleton High School graduation, local rider Bryson Bronson and horse Chinook were featured at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas and the Seattle Seahawks flew their 12th man flag over the arena during a tour across the Northwest.

"This is a great opportunity to share our accomplishments with our volunteers and friends," said Happy Canyon President Jason Hill. "As we prepare for our 100th anniversary celebration in 2016, it allows us to share our plans with the community."

Commissioner Givens new Oregon county association president

East Oregonian

Umatilla County Commissioner Larry Givens is the new president of the Association of Oregon Counties.

Givens of Umapine is serving his third term as commissioner and was the first vice-president of the county advocacy group, which installed him as president at its annual conference in November in Eugene.

Givens was out of the office this week to attend the association's presidents and executive directors meeting in Boise, and early next week he will be in Portland on association business.

Givens is also the chairman of the governing board of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, or DOGAMI. The state agency on Tuesday launched an online publications center of everything it has published since 1937.

According to a written statement from the department, the volumes include everything "from early mining reports to spectacular imagery created with cutting-edge lidar technology to geodatabases."

The documents are all free and can be downloaded at www.oregongeology.org/pubs/.

PENDLETON

City holding meeting on parklets

PENDLETON — As a part of Pendleton's efforts to re-explore placing parklets in the downtown area, the city formed a committee and is holding a public meeting Tuesday.

Parklets are decks located on top of on-street parking spaces that are built parallel to the curb and contain outdoor seating and planters for public use.

The city last considered installing parklets in 2007.

The meeting will be held in the community room at Pendleton City Hall from 2-4 p.m.

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