

## Windy River student buzzes through Geography Bee

Valery Gutierrez, a sixth grade student at Windy River Elementary in Boardman, won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee.

The Jan. 20 win gives Gutierrez a chance to compete for a \$50,000 college scholarship. The school-level event, where students answered oral questions about geography, was the first round in the 28th Annual National Geographic Bee, sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

Other students who competed at the Windy River Bee were Benny Sanchez (reserve champion), Mylee Quilter (third place), Hailey Daltoso, Daniel Flores, Stephanie Fudala, Quentin Johnson, Marco Landeros, Makaila Lantis and Carlos Magana.

Thousands of schools across the United States and in the five U.S. territories are participating in the 2016 Bee. The school champions, including Gutierrez, will take a written test — up to 100 of the top scorers on that test in each state will then be eligible to compete in their state bee April 1.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expense-paid trip for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in



Participants in the recent Windy River Elementary Geography Bee include: Back: Makaila Lantis, Daniel Flores, Quentin Johnson, Theresa Proctor-Reece (TAG coordinator). Middle: Hailey Daltoso, Stephanie Fudala, Carlos Magana, Marco Landeros. Front: Valery Gutierrez (champion), Benny Sanchez (reserve champion), Mylee Quilter (third place).

the national championship, which is May 22-25 in Washington D.C. The first-place national winner will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the society, including a subscrip-

tion to National Geographic magazine, and a National Geographic Expedition trip to a national park in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. Those who would like

to test their own geography knowledge can take the quiz at [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee) or by downloading the "National Geographic GeoBee Challenge" app.



Photo contributed by April Smith

GeoEngineers was recognized with an Engineering Excellence Award for the Kentch Reach River Restoration project by the American Council of Engineering Companies.

## Kentch Reach River Restoration project receives award

GeoEngineers recently won a Gold Best in State award for the Kentch Reach River Restoration project in Eastern Oregon.

The award was among five of 39 submitted projects that received the honor during the American Council of Engineering Companies Washington chapter annual Engineering Excellence Awards, held Friday, Jan. 22 in Bellevue,

Washington. Working for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the River Science and Engineering team carefully designed a new river alignment to correct more than 100 years of large-scale human disturbance to the floodplain.

"Given the magnitude of this work, the project completion went very

smoothly and without a serious glitch from start to finish greatly due to your efforts as a team of professionals," said Mike Lambert, CTUIR Fish Habitat program manager. "I look forward to seeing the long-term physical and ecological benefits to the South Fork Walla Walla River."

Regarded as the "Academy Awards" of Engi-

neering, the awards provide engineers with recognition from their peers as well as the general public. GeoEngineers, headquartered in Seattle, is an integrated earth science, engineering and technology firm with offices in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Louisiana and Missouri.

For more about GeoEngineers and the project, visit [www.geoengineers.com](http://www.geoengineers.com).



Residents at McKay Creek Estates participated in a runway fashion show Jan. 27 at the Pendleton facility.

## McKay Creek residents enjoy runway show

In celebration of the Everything New York theme, McKay Creek Estates held a Runway Fashion Show Jan. 27 at its Pendleton assisted living facility.

The event was hosted by Kris Travers, who lives at the facility. The residents were pampered, as they got free hairdos from Melissa Hilding, make-up by Noemi

Wiseman (facility administrator) and beautiful outfits provided by J.C. Penney.

Wiseman said it was a very wonderful time for the residents and guest participant, Rose Wiseman. They enjoyed their moment while taking their walks on the red carpet, she said.

The event was attended by staff, families and friends. It included lots of laughter and

smiles, Wiseman said. "I am so proud of all of them, they did wonderful, calm, poised and just enjoyed every minute of it, and no rehearsal at all," Wiseman said.

For more information about activities at the center, contact Wiseman at 541-276-1987 or [nwiseman@prestigecare.com](mailto:nwiseman@prestigecare.com).

## Tribal dispatcher among telecommunications graduates

Rachel Girard of the Umatilla Tribal Police Department was among nearly two dozen dispatchers from across the state to graduate from the Basic Telecommunications #97 class.

The ceremony took place recently at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem.

The two-week course included emergency call handling techniques, stress management, civil liability, ethics, criminal law, overview of fire-rescue and law enforcement operations and other topics. Upon completion of the course, students return to their employing agency to continue training for a number of months with a field training officer.

The 9-1-1 training program began in 1993 when the Oregon Legislative Assembly enacted legislation that requires individuals who receive emergency calls for assistance from the public meet professional standards for training and certification.

For more information about the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, contact Director Eriks Gabliks at [eriks.gabliks@state.or.us](mailto:eriks.gabliks@state.or.us) or 503-378-2332.

## Griswold student wins speech contest

Allan Holden of Helix recently won first place in a District No. 8 Voice of Democracy Program of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Axillary.

A Griswold High School junior, Holden's speech was titled "My Vision for America."

Holden and 13 other winners representing the state of Oregon were honored Jan. 23 at a banquet at the Shilo Inn in Newport. In its 69th year, the program provides student scholarships.

For more about Oregon VFW programs, visit [www.vfworegon.org](http://www.vfworegon.org).

## THANK YOU

### Blue Mountain Wildlife thanks supporters

Thank you to everyone who attended BMW's Annual membership meeting on Saturday, Jan. 23.

Your generosity and dedication have allowed BMW to accomplish amazing things in 2015 and begin 2016 in good shape. 2015 ended with a record 950 admissions and saw the purchase of a new microscope, a digital x-ray system and a larger intern trailer. The freezers are full of food: rats, mice and quail, and we have a new source of thousands of frozen gophers (free food). It doesn't get much better than that! Seventy-six percent of admissions came from Washington, a three percent increase from 2014.

Lynn Tompkins, executive director  
Blue Mountain Wildlife

## BRIEFLY

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton

JAN. 26, 2016

FUNK — AlyShea A. Molina and David J. Funk of Irrigon; a boy, Uriah Joseph Funk.

SALT — Naomi R. Wildbill and Joel M. Salt of Pendleton; a girl, Jolynn Weastie Salt.

SKJOTHAUG — Lindsey S. Wise of Pendleton; a girl, Cali Rose Skjothaug.

JAN. 27, 2016

MARTIN — Tasha L. Martin and Larry D. Martin Jr. of Pendleton; a girl, Annalaya Lee Martin.

JAN. 28, 2016

SMITH — Carly A. Smith and Ryan D. Smith of Pendleton; a boy, Mason Ryan Smith.

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

JAN. 28, 2016

MENDEZ — Maria Luisa and Alvaro Mendez of Umatilla; a girl, Cipriana Mendez

JAN. 29, 2016

KELLY — Angela Schneider and Jeffery Kelly of Irrigon; a boy, Peyton Roy Kelly

BONHAM — Tomara J. Gallagher and Luther E. Bonham of Hermiston; a girl, Sacora Lee Marie Bonham

FEB. 2, 2016

RAMOS — Tara LeeAnn Ramos and Rafael Ramos Jr. of Irrigon; a boy, Alejandro Ramon Ramos.



## SUBMIT YOUR EO NEWS

Submit Your EO News information and high-resolution photos 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-Hogge at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### SATURDAY, FEB. 6

AAUW, 11 a.m., Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Steve Crisman, economic development and air port manager, will present "Economic Development Update for Pendleton, the Airport and UAS Range." No-host lunch; everyone welcome.

PENDLETON EAGLES STEAK AND LIVE MUSIC, 6-8 p.m. dinner, music 8 p.m. to midnight, Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members and guests. (541-278-2828).

### SUNDAY, FEB. 7

HERMISTON EAGLES BREAKFAST, 8-11 a.m., 160 N.W. Second St. Members and guests welcome.

PENDLETON EAGLES BREAKFAST, 9 a.m. to noon, Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members

and guests. (541-278-2828).

PENDLETON EAGLES SUPER BOWL PARTY, 12:30 p.m., 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Come cheer for your favorite team, bring a crockpot of your favorite chili or soup and enter the annual cookoff (top 3 places win prizes) or appetizer carry-in (prizes also will be awarded). Special seating raffles, drink specials and surprises. Open to Eagles and guests.

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), 4 p.m. no-host late lunch, 5 p.m. monthly meeting, location varies, Pendleton. (Vicki Read 541-966-8414).

### MONDAY, FEB. 8

TELEPHONE PIONEERS, 9:30 a.m., Cookie Tree Cafe, 30 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (Trudi Engen 541-443-4371).

GARDENING FRIENDS, 2 p.m., venue varies, Boardman. (Margie

Park 541-481-2570).

IRRIGON MOOSE LODGE TACOS AND BINGO, 6-9 p.m., tacos; 6:30-9 p.m., bingo. Bingo open to the public, 220 N.E. Third St. (541-922-1802 from noon-8 p.m.)

GREENFIELD GRANGE MEETING, 6:30 p.m. at The Hall, Boardman.

UMATILLA-MORROW HEAD START, 6:30-8:30 p.m. 110 N.E. Fourth St., Hermiston. (Leanna 541-564-6878).

ATHENA BOOK GROUP, 7 p.m., Athena Public Library, 418 E. Main St., Athena. This month's selection: TBA.

INLAND NORTHWEST MUSICIANS CHORALE, 7 p.m., Harris Jr. Academy gym, 3121 S.W. Hailley Ave., Pendleton. (RaNeil Dunn 541-289-4696).

V.F.W. POST NO. 922, 7 p.m., VFW Hall, 1221 S.E. Court Place, Pendleton.

## Pet of the Week

Sage

10 Months, Chihuahua Mix, Female

Sage is an active and loving dog. She is leash trained and housebroken. She loves to fetch and is great for an active family, but needs to be the only dog in the home. Sage needs a forever home right away so come to PAWS and meet her today!

Visit Sage at the Pioneer Humane Society/PAWS  
517 SE 3rd St., Pendleton, OR  
541-276-0181 • [pendletonpaws.org](http://pendletonpaws.org)

Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

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