

**HERMISTON**

**Girl returns 'large amount' of lost cash**

By **JADE MCDOWELL**  
East Oregonian



Staff photo by Jade McDowell

**Elizabeth Doherty at Rocky Heights Elementary.**

A Hermiston student is getting kudos from the Hermiston Police Department and the community after turning money she found in to the police instead of keeping it for herself.

Elizabeth Doherty, 10, got a visit and a letter of thanks from chief Jason Edmiston on Tuesday after she found a distinctive money clip with what the department described as a "fairly large amount of cash" over the weekend. A post about it on the department's page had more than 1,170 likes and 87 comments complimenting her as of Wednesday afternoon.

"It's kind of weird but it's good," Elizabeth said of all the attention her good deed is getting.

Her parents Melissa and Ben Doherty didn't expect all of the attention, either.

"This whole thing has caught my wife and I by surprise," Ben said.

He was with Elizabeth when she pointed out the money to him and wanted to try and return it to its owner. He said she didn't seem to struggle with deciding whether to turn in the money, and he's sure many other people in the community would have done the same thing.

"I don't think there was any big test of will to over-

come," he said.

Elizabeth said after she spotted the money she and her dad walked around to some nearby businesses to ask if anyone was looking for it, then drove to the police department. The doors were locked, but an officer spotted them and asked if he could help and they turned the money over to him.

On Tuesday her teacher at Rocky Heights Elementary got a call asking if the police could talk to the class, and a few minutes later Edmiston showed up and presented

her with a department patch and a letter of recognition. In the letter, he said being a police officer can be difficult because officers spend so much time dealing with people who hurt others.

"You are none of these things, and people like you are the reason why the men and women of the Hermiston Police Department put their uniforms on every day and come to work to make a positive impact on this community," he wrote.

He thanked Elizabeth for her integrity and said that

when the department finds the owner of the money they will be sure to let the person know they got it back because of an "amazing 10-year-old girl who did the right thing."

The rightful owner of the money can call the department's evidence/property technician at 541-667-5108 to describe the item and make arrangements to get it back.

Contact **Jade McDowell** at [jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com](mailto:jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4536.

**PENDLETON**

**City tries new tact for budget discussions**

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**  
East Oregonian

The city of Pendleton will take a different approach to discussing the budget this year.

In addition to the usual balanced budget proposals, City Manager Robb Corbett has asked department heads to write budget proposals where they request the money they need to run their department optimally.

Additionally, the city intends to schedule two evening meetings to supplement the usual round of budget meetings in the spring to give the public easier access to the budget process and demonstrate the difference between what the city wants and needs and what it can afford.

At workshop Tuesday, the council discussed this new approach.

Councilor Al Plute said staff also need to create a budget that cut 30 percent from the general fund, in order to show the public that the city cannot cover its obligations no matter how deep.

"It doesn't make any difference how many of these things you find, you're not going to be able to cut your way out of it," he said. "However, until you start cutting, you're not going to bring the public around to the fact that they need to pay more money. They've asked for it. I say give it to them."

Mayor Phillip Houk said amenities like Olney Cemetery are going to be consistent money losers for the city, but they have an important value in resident's lives.

Councilor Chuck Wood agreed with Plute, saying that the city needed to show the public what kind of

amenities would be eliminated if the city continued to slash the budget.

"I don't think anybody wants to (eliminate amenities)," he said. "You're talking about quality of life. You can cut all the amenities in town and you get no quality of life and you might as well shut down your entire economic development engine entirely. We need to keep trying to communicate that."

The council named the budget a top priority, followed by identifying surplus property, finding new sources of revenue and putting together a communications plan.

The council also added a new priority — building a new fire station.

Wood wanted the council to consider pursuing a bond for a new fire hall in November, but council members would need to get their "butts in gear" to do it.

Plute said the council needed to know how much money it would take to maintain a new fire station.

"When you build that new fire station with all the bells and whistles and all the technological stuff that its going to have, when that stuff needs to be fixed its not getting fixed by a handyman," Plute said. "It's going to be getting fixed by a guy making \$60 to \$70 to \$100 an hour or even more."

Fire Chief Mike Ciraulo said his staff is currently compiling the maintenance costs of the current fire stations and talking with consultants of what the projected costs of the new fire station would be.

Contact **Antonio Sierra** at [asierra@eastoregonian.com](mailto:asierra@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0836.

**HERMISTON**

**Bridal show provides one-stop wedding planning**

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**  
East Oregonian

Wedding planning is made easier as people have an opportunity to talk to wedding professionals, gather information and get inspired during the Eastern Oregon Bridal Show.

"Brides are often totally unprepared for the amount of planning a wedding takes. After all, it's usually a once in a lifetime event," said Stacey Miles, the show's producer.

Working in the wedding industry since 2008, Miles owns Uniquely, I Do and Stone Ridge Event Center. The Tri-Cities entrepreneur enjoys working with brides and wedding professionals.

Producing the show with Daniell McAfee, owner of H&M Photography, Miles is passionate about supporting wedding professionals and ensuring brides have the resources available to plan the wedding of their dreams.

The Eastern Oregon Bridal Show is Sunday, Feb. 21 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395. It includes a wedding fashion show at 1:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Brides-to-be who buy a \$5 ticket in advance can have someone accompany them for free, or for \$10 she can bring up to 10 guests with her to the show.

The bridal show features wedding gowns, bridesmaids/flower girl dresses, creative designers, photographers, health and beauty experts and much more. Some people come just for the fashion show to see all the beautiful gowns, Miles said.

"It is a day to learn, gather information, meet vendors and simply have fun," Miles said. "Brides will be able



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini

**Sean Perkins of Desert Sounds Mobile DJ announces a bridal wear fashion show during a past Eastern Oregon Bridal Show. The event, which offers one-stop wedding planning, is Sunday, Feb. 21 at the Hermiston Conference Center.**

to taste samples, smell flowers, look through picture books, try on and buy wedding dresses. We encourage the professionals attending our show to be as interactive as possible."

Most of the vendors hold drawings, discounts, giveaways and promotions at their booths. In addition, the bridal show will give away \$250 to one lucky bride to spend on her wedding. Also, there will be other prizes and gifts.

The brides, Miles said, will go home with information, tools and resources that will be invaluable as they plan their special day.

For more information, contact [stacey@eobridalshow.com](mailto:stacey@eobridalshow.com), 509-948-6974 or visit [www.eobridalshow.com](http://www.eobridalshow.com).

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

**BRIEFLY**

**Hansell's water bill passes Senate**

SALEM — The Oregon Senate has passed a bill to help homeowners conserve water during times of drought.

Senate Bill 1529, sponsored by Bill Hansell, R-Athens, passed 21-7 on Feb. 9, with two senators excused from voting. It now goes to the Oregon House for further consideration.

As written, the bill would prohibit homeowner associations from requiring members to water their lawns while a state-declared drought is in effect. Gov. Kate Brown declared a drought emergency in two-thirds of Oregon counties in 2015, including Umatilla and Morrow counties.

"Some homeowners who belong to a homeowner association were required by HOA regulations to water their lawns when cities might not have enough water

to make it through the summer," Hansell said. "This is a common sense approach to conserve water and protect homeowners from unreasonable HOA requirements during a drought."

SB 1529 was the first Republican-sponsored bill to pass the Senate during the 2016 short legislative session.

**Fundraiser set for Ferguson family**

IONE — A spaghetti feed to benefit Mike Ferguson, who is battling cancer, is planned this weekend in Ione.

The event is Friday beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Ione Community School, 445 Spring St. In addition to spaghetti, the meal includes salad, bread and a brownie. The cost is \$6, with all proceeds going to Ferguson and his family.

For more information, contact [bridgett.alldritt@ionensd.org](mailto:bridgett.alldritt@ionensd.org).

**Mystery stench invades Pendleton**

East Oregonian

Pendleton stinks. At least it stunk on Wednesday afternoon.

The cause, though, was difficult to pinpoint.

Pendleton public works director Bob Patterson said the city's wastewater treatment plant is not the source of the stench.

"Even on the worst summer day, our plant doesn't smell like it does outside right now," Patterson said in an email.

He said his best guess is that a cattle feedlot or dairy operation is behind the stench.

"I believe the source of the odor is from the west end of Umatilla County and Morrow County, and the wind conditions are just right to bring the odor up river — coming out of the northwest," he stated.

The National Weather Service reported stagnant air this week is over much of Umatilla County and the eastern Columbia

River Gorge. A "ridge of high pressure" has trapped "pollutants at or near the surface," according to an advisory from the service.

Tom Hack is an air quality specialist with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in Pendleton. The stench filling nostrils in Pendleton "was not good," he said, but he

was unable to pinpoint just where it was coming from.

He said if it is manure it is not likely to be dangerous, although people who are sensitive to the smell should stay indoors.

Hack noted that wind patterns are expected to shift Thursday and Friday, so the stench should not stick around long.

*The Place for Lovebirds*  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FEB. 13 & 14  
*Valentine Dinner Specials*  
Bleu Cheese Topped Sirloin  
Fire Roasted Salmon with Mango Salsa  
**Live Music Saturday**  
AT 9PM IN THE SALOON  
**DAKOTA BROWN**  
FREE - NO COVER  
CALL FOR RESERVATIONS 541.278.1100  
Saloon Opens at 4PM • Dinner beginning at 5PM  
**HAMLEY STEAKHOUSE**  
COURT & MAIN • DOWNTOWN PENDLETON

*The* **LITTLE THEATRE** OF WALLA WALLA  
**THE GLASS MENAGERIE**  
A Drama By **Tennessee Williams**  
BY PERMISSION OF DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE  
January 29, 30, February 5, 6, 7\*, 12, 13, 14\* 2016  
[Itww.org](http://Itww.org) | 1130 E. Sumach  
Directed by **Jeff Schlicher**  
Produced by **Marion Inglis & Judy Schlicher**  
For more information or questions, call 509-529-3683.  
\*Matinee performance