

Country musician sings for a cure

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

Iconic country musician Michael Martin Murphey and his Rio Grande Band are hitching up the wagon and heading to Pendleton for a benefit concert.

Murphey, a Western Music Hall of Fame artist who has six gold albums and multiple Grammy nominations, will give the audience a pre-release sampling of new songs from his upcoming album, “High Stakes: Cowboy Songs VII.”

Murphey is a long-time activist and outspoken supporter of ranchers and caring for our land and water. Andy Rieber of Adel met Murphey at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada. They shared a passion for protecting and promoting the interests of American ranchers.

“It may sound like an oxymoron, but ‘Cowboy Culture’ is real and relevant. I celebrate men and women who love dirt, grass and water,” Murphey says in his website biography. “Truth is, cowboys and cowgirls can save the planet.”

This isn’t merely fancy rhetoric for the Texas-born cowboy; Murphey is performing at Hamley Slickfork Saloon to help with Rieber’s on-going medical treatment for chronic Lyme disease. The benefit is being produced by Murphey Western Institute, the musician’s nonprofit center that promotes the history and traditions of the



Contributed photos
Michael Martin Murphey (left) and his Rio Grande Band will perform a benefit concert for Andy Rieber (right), who is being treated for chronic Lyme disease, April 9 at Hamley Slickfork Saloon in Pendleton.

American West.

With a tough-as-nails spirit, Rieber has experienced her share of hardships after a delayed diagnosis of Lyme disease. She first experienced symptoms in 2002 while attending graduate school.

“If you catch it early, within the first few weeks, it’s pretty straight forward to treat — if you can catch it early,” Rieber said. “If you let it run away, it can become chronic and treatment becomes much more complicated.”

The initial symptoms Rieber experienced were like the flu — nothing seemed out of the ordinary, she said. However, she then began experiencing excruciating joint pain. At that point, Rieber thought she may have injured her rotator cuff, but then the pain would subside and migrate to another joint. Next, she was hit with unbe-

lievable exhaustion. Fatigue, she said, is not the word to describe it.

By the time the Lyme disease diagnosis was made six months later, Rieber was in for a ride like no other. The active outdoorswoman soon found fighting the disease was just as difficult as dealing with a medical community that was largely lacking in addressing chronic Lyme disease.

“I was completely unprepared to do the type of patient advocacy for myself that is required of Lyme disease patients,” she said.

Unable to work a regular 9-5 job, Rieber still needed an income. Her search for a cure recently included five months in Germany. A silver lining of the disease, Rieber said, has been her ability to create her own career. A number of years ago, she

In concert

WHEN: Saturday, April 9
TIME: 6 p.m., doors open; 7 p.m., show
WHERE: Hamley Slickfork Saloon, Pendleton
COST: \$45/premier, \$40/general
TICKETS: www.michaelmartinmurphey.tix.com
INFO: 541-240-0202

responded to an advertisement seeking regional correspondents in the Western Livestock Journal.

“I thought, ‘Hell, I can write.’ I wrote about the wolf situation in northeast Oregon and they said, ‘Send us more stuff,’ and thus began my career as a journalist,” Rieber said.

She has worked as a freelance journalist and consultant, telling the story of ranchers to the wider public. Rieber and Murphey have worked on several projects that are important to ranchers and the environment. Through this connection, Murphey reached out to Rieber and offered to perform a trio of benefit concerts, with the other shows in Lakeview and Bend.

The benefit at Hamley’s also includes a live auction of classic Pendleton items and an autographed Michael Martin Murphey guitar.

For more about Murphey’s foundation, visit www.murpheywesterninstitute.org. While there is a lot of information available about Lyme disease, Rieber encourages people to visit www.bayarealyme.org.

BRIEFLY

Nominate your assistant for award

HERMISTON — Nominations are being accepted for top-notch administrative professionals, who will be recognized at the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce’s annual Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon. The form is available at the chamber or its website and is due Friday, April 15. Also, sponsorships are needed for the event.

The special luncheon is Tuesday, April 26 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Tickets for the meal are \$20 each or \$140 for a table of eight.

All nominees will be honored with a token of appreciation and the winner will receive numerous gifts. In addition, Anne-Louise Sterry, an internationally know motivational speaker, will speak about the power of audacious joy.

For more information, contact 541-567-6151, info@hermistonchamber.com or visit www.hermistonchamber.com.

Meet a Minion at the SAGE Center

HEPPNER — Minions are coming to the SAGE Center.

Families can meet the pint-sized stars of “Despicable Me” on Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2, followed by a screening of the movie in the museum theater.

A dance party with the minions will start at 5:30 p.m. on April 1, with \$7 admission that includes a serving of banana split ice cream, pair of minion goggles and ticket to the movie at 7:15. There is also a \$5 option to meet the minions at 7:30 p.m. without buying a movie ticket.

The party starts again on April 2 with a meet-and-greet at 12:30 p.m. followed by the movie at 2:15, with \$7 admission. Or, come meet the minions at 2:30 p.m. for \$5.

The SAGE Center is located at 101 Olson Road in Boardman. For more information, call 541-481-7243 or www.visitsage.com.

CCT sets auditions for one-act plays

PENDLETON — More than 15 adult parts are available for College Community Theatre’s “Evening of One-Act Plays.”

Auditions are set for Wednesday, March 30 and Thursday, March 31 at 7 p.m. in the Bob Clapp Theatre at Blue Mountain Community College, 2411

N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. The auditions are open to the entire community, not just BMCC students and staff. No advance preparation is required for the auditions. Selections from the plays will be used for cold readings.

The production, which covers a broad range of topics and theatrical styles, will feature seven short plays directed by seven CCT directors. The performance dates are May 12-15 and 19-22.

Craig McIntosh, BMCC theatre arts instructor and CCT artistic director, said this type of production provides an opportunity for new directors to get their feet wet with a smaller project, as well as allowing actors of all experience levels to participate in a project that doesn’t demand quite the same time commitment as a two-hour play or a three-hour musical.

For more information, contact McIntosh at 541-278-5928 or cct@bluecc.edu.

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS

Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

SPRING SALE!

CLOSEOUT FRAMES & LENSES 60% OFF

EXCELLENT SELECTION OF
SILHOUETTE • ADIDAS • FENDI
SALVATORE FERRAGAMO
& MANY MORE!

EYE EXAMS Saturday appointments available

AFFORDABLE FAMILY EYEWEAR
Todd G. Anderson, OD • Marcia Lambert, LDO
541-567-3790 • 1045 N 1st, Hermiston
Open Monday to Saturday • Se Habla Español
Same Day Service • www.affordablefamilyeyewear.com
We accept most insurances: Moda, Regence, Ameritas & Many More!

Little Darlings!

This special section will be full of adorable little darlings that have arrived over the last 3 years to bless many families and our communities. Families will want to keep this special keepsake for their child and family for years to come.

Submit a photo of your Little Darling (Age 0 - 3) & be entered into a drawing for prizes by local sponsors!

Send in, or drop by, a full color high resolution photo, your child’s name and a message to your child today!

Little Darlings
211 SE Byers, Pendleton, OR 97801
333 E. Main, Hermiston, OR 97838
or email classifieds@eastoregonian.com

Deadline for photos: April 4th
Publish date: April 13th

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Child’s Name: _____

Message: _____

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, March 27, 2016 • 7 AM
Historic Meacham Hotel
Meacham, Oregon

Speaker is Pastor Rick Oliver
Music provided by Lon Thornburg

Worship in the beautiful Blue Mountains

After the service join us for a complimentary breakfast buffet.
Bring your favorite dish if you want.

Sponsored by Blue Mt. Christian Cowboys
Information: 541-449-3280 or 541-276-8540

EASTER SERVICES

Redeemer Episcopal Church

Holy (Maundy) Thursday 7 p.m.
Good Friday - Noon & 7 p.m.
Easter Vigil - Saturday 7 p.m.
Easter Sunday - 9 a.m.

241 SE Second St., Pendleton • (541) 276-3809
www.pendletonepiscopal.org

Celebrate Easter

New Hope Community Church
1850 S. Hwy 395
7:30, 9:00 & 10:45 am

Programs for kids at 9 & 10:45 services

JOIN US FOR RESURRECTION SUNDAY

MARCH 27TH

- Worship Gatherings 10:30 AM
- Breakfast 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM
- Sermon Title: *Facing Tomorrow*

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
775 W. Highland Avenue, Hermiston • 541-567-3013

www.hermistonfirstchristian.org

Peace Lutheran Church

210 NW 9th Street
Pendleton, OR
541-276-7592
www.peaceinpendleton.com

Come Celebrate New Life!

7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service, March 24
7:00 PM - Good Friday Worship, March 25
Celebration Easter Worship
9:30 AM at 9th & Carden
10:30 AM Easter Brunch
On 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday

Peter Rabbit Breakfast

Sat. March 26th
7:30 - 10:30 AM
\$5.00 for Breakfast
5 & under FREE

Face painting, Easter egg hunt, Crafts, & Peter Rabbit

Easter Day, March 27th
Sunrise Worship at the Cross on the Butte: 6:30 AM
Church Worship Services: 11:00 AM

Sunday morning worship services are broadcast live at www.herfumc.com

First United Methodist Church
191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston, OR

Good Friday, March 25th
Worship Service: 7:00 PM

NEW LOCATION! ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

at the
WHITE EAGLE GRANGE HALL
43828 WHITE EAGLE ROAD, PENDLETON, OR
Take U.S. 395 south about 10 miles from Pendleton. The Grange Hall is a lone white building with a green roof about 400 ft. west of the Hwy.

EASTER WEEK SERVICES

Tenebrae (Wednesday), Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday), Good Friday: each at 6:30 PM
Easter Sunday Mass: 10:00 AM
Regular Services: 10:00 AM - Sundays

We are High Anglican and use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer

The Rev. Father Vincent J. Varnas, Priest-in-Charge
For more information, telephone: 1-541-303-1261
Also visit us on:
www.facebook.com/stpaulanglicanchurchapa

HermNaz

1520 W ORCHARD AVE
www.hermistonnazarene.org

Experience Good Friday
Friday, March 25th, a drop-in event
7:00 - 9:00 pm

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 26th
11:00 am

Easter Breakfast
9:00 am at HermNaz

Kid's Craft Time
9:30 am

Family Worship Celebration
10:30 am