

Milton-Freewater Scouts soar with Eagle ranking

Spencer Wells and Patton Wright of Milton-Freewater Troop #315 recently achieved the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America — the Eagle Scout.

More than 100 guests, including Mayor Lewis Key and his wife, Patty, attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for the two young men March 12 at the Milton-Freewater Community Building.

Sen. Bill Hansell, a friend of the Wright family, was the guest speaker and City Manager Linda Hall served as master of ceremonies.

Speaking about leadership, Hansell cited Paul Revere, who was involved in his church and community, as a “voice of influence” and “one of the most important men in the founding of our country.”

“Be involved now and in the future ... with others with goals to better your community,” Hansell said. “The world is run by those who show up.”

Wells, 16, the son of John and Amy Wells, is a sophomore at McLoughlin High School. He is active in football, track, jazz band, wrestling and is a half-marathon runner. After high school, he plans to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For his Eagle Project,



Sen. Bill Hansell was the guest speaker at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Spencer Wells and Patton Wright March 12 at the Milton-Freewater Community Building. Also pictured is Milton-Freewater Mayor Lewis Key.

Wells organized Scouts and volunteers to replace the deteriorating wood roof canopy covering a picnic table at Yantis Park. Wells obtained money from the city of Milton-Freewater to buy materials for a new metal roof. He enjoyed repairing a focal point of the park.

Wright, 15, the son of Shane and Sheree Wright, is a freshman at Mac-Hi. He is active in jazz band, wrestling, football, soccer, track, 4-H, FFA, horse showing, steer wrestling, rodeo and runs half-marathons. After

high school, he plans to attend Oregon Institute of Technology to study echocardiography.

Visiting with a local veteran, Wright learned the roof of the M-F American Legion building needed repair. Involving others, the veterans obtained grants to purchase materials. Wright recruited Scouts, veterans and construction workers from his family to install the new metal roof. He was pleased that his Eagle Project helped veterans.

After being recognized

for their accomplishments, Wells and Wright expressed appreciation to those who have helped them along the way. Wright honored his grandmother, Marcia Akes, with a Eagle Mentor pin, and Wells gave a mentor pin to his grandfather, Jerry Davis, and former scoutmaster Brian Scott.

The young men also credited Eagle Scouts in their families, including Wells’ father and Wright’s uncles, Colton Akes and Clay Akes, for setting the example for them.

ESD brushes up with dental grant

The InterMountain Education Service District recently received a \$70,000 grant from The Oregon Community Foundation to improve dental health for students in Eastern Oregon.

The purpose of the grant is to implement a comprehensive school-based dental health program targeted at low-income students in kindergarten through eighth grade in Umatilla, Morrow and Union counties.

One of the local ESD’s continuing initiatives is to improve the oral health of students in its 18 component school districts by providing care that is accessible, affordable and convenient for students. Mark Mulvihill, ESD superintendent, said the grant will assist in furthering

goals set by the district.

“By improving oral health for Eastern Oregon students, we can continue to make progress toward increasing school attendance, increasing the third grade reading rate and increasing the high school graduation rate,” he said.

The grant funding comes from the Children’s Dental Health Initiative Fund, a statewide initiative of the OCF. The partners that contributed to the grant include A-dec, The Ford Family Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Meyer Memorial Trust, Northwest Health Foundation and Providence Health & Services.

For more information, visit www.imesd.k12.or.us or www.oregoncfc.org/ocf-initiatives.



U.S. Bank donation unites community

Bob Kavanaugh, Kara Taylor and Renae Swilling of U. S. Bank present a check to Cricket Nicholson, executive director of United Way of Umatilla and Morrow Counties, during the March 22 Hermiston Chamber B2B luncheon. The \$3,320 will be used to support local nonprofit services. For more information on how to help the local Untied Way, contact Nicholson at 541-276-2661 or unitedwayumco@eoni.com.



McLoughlin High School senior saxophonist Brendan Smith was recently honored during the Lionel Hampton/University of Idaho Jazz Festival.

Mac-Hi musician presents noteworthy performance

Mac-Hi senior saxophonist Brendan Smith was recently honored as an outstanding soloist with the McLoughlin High School Jazz Ensemble.

Smith was awarded a “Noteworthy Performance by a Soloist Certificate” by the judges for his soprano saxophone solos on “Groove Merchant,” “Summer-

time” and “Caravan” at the Lionel Hampton/University of Idaho Jazz Festival, held February 27 in Moscow, Idaho.

For more about the band program at Mac-Hi, including upcoming performances, contact band director Mike Agidius at agidius@miltfree.k12.or.us.

ANNIVERSARY



Alvin and Joan Sather

Alvin L. and Joan M. (Adkison) Sather of Echo are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary March 30.

Alvin and Joan met while serving in the U.S. Army and Women’s Army Corps. They both worked at the Headquarters Office at Camp Zama, Japan. Alvin proposed to Joan by sending her a cartoon through the office mail.

They married March 30, 1956. Since marrying overseas they have four marriage certificates: one written in Japanese (legal one); American Consulate; Catholic Church; and Camp Zama, Japan. After their ceremony they spent one week at the Military Retreat at Mount Fujiyama, Japan.

Alvin and Joan have five children: Jodi Desjardins of Fox Island, Wash., William Sather of Hermiston, Kristi Bartley of Hermiston, Lauri Stubenrauch of Salem and Shari Humphrey of Hermiston. They also have eight



3-30-56 TOKYO JAPAN



Joan and Alvin Sather



grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, with one on the way.

Alvin retired as First Sergeant, U.S. Army, and Joan retired as Administrative Officer, McNary Dam Corps of Engineers. They enjoy camping, visiting the coast and spending time with family.

BIRTHS

- St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton**
- MARCH 24, 2016**
HALL — Katie Hall and Jason Hall of Helix; a boy, Everett Marshall Hall.
- MARCH 25, 2016**
WINTERTON — Terra R. Starr and Tyler D. Winterton of Boardman; a boy, Rory Duane Winterton.
- MARCH 27, 2016**
BLEVINS — Jessica A. Blevins and Ashley A. Blevins of Pendleton; a boy, Tucker Julian Blevins.
- Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston**
- MARCH 22, 2016**
RILEY — Christina M. Riley and James D. Riley of Hermiston; a boy, Owen Ross Riley.

- MARCH 23, 2016**
ANDERSON — Danielle Smith and Jacob Anderson of Hermiston; a boy, Hayden Michael Anderson.
- BROCK** — Sarah R. Brock and Carl G. Brock of Pendleton; a girl, Charlotte Rose Brock.
- LIMBURG** — Janelle L. Limburg and Trevor B. Limburg of Umatilla; a boy, Joel Val Limburg.
- MARCH 25, 2016**
COOMBS — Cassondra Baker and Michael Coombs of Hermiston; a girl, Adilynn Michelle Coombs.
- MARCH 26, 2016**
MASTERS — Kayla M. Masters and Conley J. Masters of Irrigon; a girl, Ashtyn Jae Masters.

SUBMIT YOUR EO NEWS

Submit Your EO News information and high-resolution photos to: 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.

Pet of the Week

Ms. Valentine

Ms. Valentine is a beautiful girl. She is confused about being at the shelter. Ms. Valentine will be a super cat for a rescuer with a little patience. She is waiting for her rescuer to give her a loving forever home.

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Visit Ms. Valentine at the Pioneer Humane Society/PAWS
517 SE 3rd St., Pendleton, OR
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541-276-0181 • pendletonpaws.org
Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

Sponsor a pet in need of a home.
Contact Terri at
541-215-0447
tbriggs@eastoregonian.com