

**HERMISTON**

# Future leaders take projects national

By JENNIFER COLTON  
*East Oregonian*

Seven students from Hermiston High School qualified for the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in San Diego, Calif., and one will travel as Hermiston's first Oregon State FCCLA president.

"I had no idea. I was shocked, but I am very grateful," said senior Salma Anguiano, who was selected as president. "When you go to state, you're representing your school. At nationals, you're representing your state."

FCCLA — Family, Career and Community Leaders of America — is a nonprofit national career and technical student organization. Students from across the country compete in local, regional and state events to qualify for the national conference, July 2-8 in San Diego, Calif.

Thirty Hermiston students competed at the Oregon state

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— Hannah Reese, Hermiston High School senior

event this year, and seven earned gold medals to qualify for state:

- Hannah Reese, senior, Hospitality
  - Camden Gutierrez, freshman, Focus on Children
  - Jesus Ramirez, senior, Applied Math in Culinary Management
  - Jasmin Chen, sophomore, and Anguiano, senior, Food Innovations
  - Amelia Boyd, sophomore, and Yvette Mendoza, sophomore, National Programs in Action
- To compete at the state level, students had to win a silver or gold medal at regional competitions. To qualify for the national competition, they had to earn a medal at the state competi-

tion as well.

"We were hoping for a silver, and we never expected to get gold. We went there to try our best and see what happened," Gutierrez said. "We did come together as a team, and we learned a lot." The projects varied. Ramirez worked with applied mathematics in culinary management: building a menu for an event, figuring our costs and prices and how much to charge per plate to make a profit. Chen and Anguiano created a "Hawaiian Paradise" smoothie that incorporated servings of fruits and vegetables. Reese created a business outline complete with a website, mission statement and audience considerations.

Gutierrez created a "Focus on Children" program to increase health for elementary kids through different activities, skills and food choices. And Amelia Boyd and Yvette Mendoza organized a coin drive for Agape House that earned them a spot in the "National Programs in Action" category.

"There's really a good range of programs people can do. I think people get confused that it's just cooking or working with kids, but it's not," Reese said. "There's so much you can do to prepare for your future."

During the national competition, students will both compete and take leadership training classes. Ramirez said it will be both exciting and nerve-wracking. "State was fun, but nationals might be a little more overwhelming," he said. "It will be a challenge."

Contact Jennifer Colton at [jcolton@eastoregonian.com](mailto:jcolton@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4534.



EO file photo  
**Sen. Jeff Merkley talks during a town hall meeting Feb. 17, 2014 at Pendleton High School. Merkley will have a town hall in Stanfield on May 21.**

## Merkley to hold town halls in Eastern Oregon

STANFIELD — U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, will visit Umatilla County on Saturday, May 21 for a town hall meeting in Stanfield.

The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Stanfield Elementary School cafeteria, where Merkley will update constituents on his work in Congress and take questions from the crowd.

"These town hall meetings are crucial to learning what is most important to Oregonians and how I can most effectively advocate for Oregon's priorities," Merkley said in a press release.

Merkley will stop in John Day earlier in the morning, and also plans to hold town halls Friday, May 20 in Harney and Malheur counties.

Since joining the Senate in 2009, Merkley has held a town hall in each of Oregon's 36 counties every year.

more information about how to protect personal information and finances from scammers.

The events are free but participants must pre-register at [www.scamjamoregon.com](http://www.scamjamoregon.com) or call 1-877-926-8300.

## Hermiston schools add administrators, coaches

HERMISTON — As the school year winds to a close, Hermiston School District is announcing a batch of new hires for next year.

On Monday the school board officially approved current Sandstone Middle School principal Larry Usher as the district's next activities and athletic director. He will start his duties July 1, working out of Hermiston High School. Usher has been with the district since 2002 when he was hired as a social studies teacher.

Replacing Usher at the helm of Sandstone Middle School will be Lori Mills, who is the assistant principal at Armand Larive Middle School. Mills came to the district in 2015 after serving as Athena-Weston Middle School principal and the district's assessment coordinator and curriculum director.

The Hermiston school board also approved the hiring of Casey Arstein as head Hermiston High School boys basketball coach, Elise Fleming as head Hermiston High School volleyball coach and Sean McClanahan as Hermiston High School band director.

Arstein is a Sandstone Middle School physical education teacher who has coached basketball at various levels in the district. Fleming is from Kennewick, Wash., and will serve as a physical education teacher at Armand Larive Middle School in addition to coaching. McClanahan is currently a music/drama teacher for Kiona-Benton City School District in Washington.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to [news@eastoregonian.com](mailto:news@eastoregonian.com).

**STANFIELD**

# City looking to change downtown rules

Seeks public input on development, consistent design

By JADE MCDOWELL  
*East Oregonian*

The city of Stanfield wants to change its rules governing downtown development, but not without citizen input.

The city is inviting the public to a kickoff meeting May 17 at 7 p.m. at Stanfield Secondary School (with Spanish translation provided) to discuss ways to improve the look and functionality of downtown without putting cumbersome rules on business

owners. "We want to make sure it really reflects what the community wants and really accomplishes our goals," city manager Blair Larsen said.

Those goals include removing barriers to downtown development, encouraging a "pleasant and walkable" downtown, promoting consistent visual design and making the code easier to read and understand.

The plan is to evaluate the city's current downtown development codes and citizen input on those codes, then draft a set of code and design standards in time for final adoption in the fall.

Downtown development codes can cover everything

from the types of business uses allowed in buildings to what color people can paint their business. Larsen said the city hopes to hear from people on what they want to see downtown.

He said the city is working with a consultant, who will help present information about the current downtown development codes on Tuesday. There will also be more opportunity for public input during future planning commission and city council meetings as the city moves forward with writing new rules.

"This is something we're working on, and regardless of whether they can come to the meeting, we're always happy to hear from

them, especially business owners," he said.

The development code overhaul is one of several projects the city of Stanfield has undertaken recently to improve downtown. The city recently worked on a streetscape plan to improve the section of Highway 395 running through the city, and for the first time this year offered a facade grant program and sidewalk grant program to provide property owners with matching funds for improvements. Larsen said the council plans to extend both of those programs into 2016-2017.

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

**HERMISTON**

# District wins ninth straight financial transparency award

*East Oregonian*

For the ninth year in a row, the Hermiston School District business office has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for the district's 2014-2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the certificate is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

The certificate is awarded

primarily to government units whose financial reports meet the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting. The reports are judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the full report.

This is the 10th time the Hermiston School District has been recognized for its report. The district was previ-

ously honored for nine of the previous 10 years.

"I am truly proud of the financial stewardship exhibited by the Board of Education and district business department," business manager Katie Saul wrote in a press release. "This honor is evidence of the district's commitment to excellence in reporting transparency and financial accountability; it exemplifies the district's standard of excellence and vision to be the premier public school district in Oregon."

The Government Finance Officers Association of the

U.S. and Canada is a nonprofit professional association that serves approximately 17,500 government finance professionals. The association established the program in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**FRIDAY, MAY 13**  
**PENDLETON MASTERS SWIM CLUB**, 5-6 p.m., Roundup Athletic Club pool, 1415 Southgate, Pendleton. Fees are \$5 per session coaching fee; non-RAC members pay \$8 pool fee per session. (Tania Wildbill 541-310-9102).  
**PENDLETON EAGLES LADIES AUXILIARY KITCHEN**, 6-8 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. (541-278-2828).  
**SATURDAY, MAY 14**  
**MEN'S BREAKFAST**, 8 a.m., Bethel Assembly of God Church, 1109 Airport Road, Pendleton.  
**FRIENDS OF THE UMATILLA PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 9 a.m., Umatilla City Hall, 300 6th St.  
**RETIRED UMATILLA ARMY DEPOT WOMEN'S CLUB**, 9 a.m. no-host breakfast, Pheasant Cafe, 149 E. Main St. Hermiston.  
**UMATILLA COUNTY DEMOCRATS**, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. no-host luncheon, Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Meet new friends and listen to guest speaker Tom Bailor, candidate for Umatilla County commissioner. Everyone welcome. (541-567-1072).  
**EASTERN OREGON CELTIC SOCIETY PIPERS GATHERING**, 1 p.m., The Old Meeting House, 901 M Ave., La Grande. For pipers of all skill levels. Instruction is free, but a \$2 donation for use of the

building is appreciated. (541-568-4643 or [pelder@oregontrail.net](mailto:pelder@oregontrail.net)).  
**PENDLETON EAGLES STEAK AND LIVE MUSIC**, 6-8 p.m. dinner, music 8 p.m. to midnight, Pendleton Eagles Lodge No. 28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members and guests. (541-278-2828).  
**SUNDAY, MAY 15**  
**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).  
**MONDAY, MAY 16**  
**BLUE MOUNTAIN PIECE-MAKERS**, 12 noon, Thimbles Fabric-N-More, 1849 Westgate Place, Pendleton.  
**PENDLETON ROTARY**, 12 noon, Pendleton Elks Lodge, 14 S.E. Third St.  
**DIRT DABBLERS GARDEN CLUB**, 1 p.m., Vert Club Room, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. Visitors welcome. ([johnsonstubby@yahoo.com](mailto:johnsonstubby@yahoo.com)).  
**HERMISTON TEEN LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL**, 4-5 p.m., downstairs Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.  
**OREGON TRAIL GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**, 6 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (Tom Moon 541-278-9702).

**BLOOMER GIRLS GARDEN CLUB**, 7 p.m., meeting site varies, Hermiston. (Marge Timmons 541-567-4069).  
**INLAND NORTHWEST MUSICIANS CHORALE**, 7 p.m., Harris Jr. Academy gym, 3121 S.W. Hailey Ave., Pendleton. (RaNiel Dunn 541-289-4696).  
**TUESDAY, MAY 17**  
**PENDLETON TOASTMASTERS No. 154**, 6:45 a.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave. ([toastmasterdarienuesue@gmail.com](mailto:toastmasterdarienuesue@gmail.com)).  
**TOPS CHAPTER OR** 1110, 8 a.m. weigh-in, meeting starts at 8:45 a.m., Missionary Baptist Church, 125 E. Beech St., Hermiston. (Margaret Wetterling 541-720-0276).  
**BIBLE STUDY**, 10 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 352 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. (Rev. Jim Pierce 541-276-2616).  
**GREENFIELD GRANGE PINOCCHLE**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Greenfield Grange Hall, Boardman. (Jane Dean 541-481-5223).  
**GREATER HERMISTON**

**AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB**, 11:45 a.m., Desert Lanes, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston. No-host lunch. All women welcome. (541-567-0006).  
**PENDLETON TOASTMASTERS**, 12 noon, Roosters Restaurant, 1515 Southgate. (Jim Marquardt 541-969-4845).  
**"THE LIFE MODEL - LIVING FROM THE HEART JESUS GAVE YOU" BOOK STUDY GROUP**, 1-2:30 p.m., Bowman Building, 17 S.W. Frazer, Pendleton. (Pat 541-276-6671).  
**WESTON-MCEWEN LI-ONS CLUB**, 1 p.m., Doubletree Restaurant, Athena. (Ellyn 541-566-3987).  
**STUDYING THE MIRACLES OF JESUS**, 4-6 p.m., Good Samaritan Ministries, 319 W. Locust Ave., Hermiston. (541-564-1041).  
**PENDLETON EAGLES TACOS AND BINGO**, 6 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge #28, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Regular packet \$10, special packet \$5. Proceeds donated to local charities. (541-278-2828).

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**Live Music** 9:00 PM  
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