

ARLINGTON

Cars to shine in show

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
East Oregonian



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini

A polished hood ornament glistens in the sun on a 1931 Ford pickup owned by Kathleen McCall during a recent car show. People are invited to display vehicles and enjoy activities during the Arlington Show N Shine Saturday at Earl Snell Park in Arlington.

From antique and collectible vehicles to electric cars, motorcycles and even tractors, people are invited to spiff up their rides for the Arlington Show N Shine Car Show.

“There will be tons of fun along the Columbia River in Arlington,” said Marta Mikkalo, president of the Arlington Community Chamber of Commerce.

The family event also features fun in the sun and shade. The event begins with registration Saturday from 9-11 a.m. at Earl Snell Park, located off Interstate 84 at Exit 137, Arlington. The cost for vehicle entry is \$10 per car. The first 50 registered will receive a dash plaque and gift bag. In addition to a people’s choice award, nearly two dozen trophies will be handed out at 3:15 p.m.

The festivities also include the St. Francis Mission Catholic Church barbecue lunch, which begins at 11 a.m. Also, the Methodist Church Ladies will serve strawberry shortcake all afternoon. The gals from the Arlington United Methodist Church are known for the yummy treat.

The day includes hula hoop contests and the annual

Rubber Duck Regatta. Held in the lagoon, Mikkalo said it’s always entertaining. The rubber ducks can be purchased at the Arlington Hardware for a buck a duck. Also, the chamber is providing floaties and water play toys for the kids. A licensed lifeguard will be on duty.

The Show N Shine also includes a poker walk. People will make their way to five participating business and be dealt a card. The best hand will receive a custom-made leather item from Ron Wilson Custom Leather, valued up to \$150.

The Arlington Community Chamber of Commerce also is sponsoring another upcoming event. The Sceptres, a classic rock band, will perform a concert Saturday, Aug. 20 from 7-9 p.m. at Earl Snell Park. A dance floor will be set up and food and drinks will be available for purchase.

For more information, contact 541-626-3426, info@visitarlingtonoregon.com or visit www.visitarlingtonoregon.com.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

HERMISTON

Man charged with attempted rape of mother of his child

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Hermiston police arrested a 20-year-old man on suspicion he forced his way into the home of an ex-girlfriend and sexually assaulted her.

Umatilla County Circuit Court records show Antonio Rodriguez of 1707 N.E. Sixth St., Hermiston, faces initial charges of first-degree burglary, first-degree sexual abuse, first-degree attempted rape, all felonies, and misdemeanor fourth-degree assault.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said the survivor came to the police station Monday afternoon and reported Rodriguez

assaulted her at about 3 that morning at her apartment on South Highway 395, Hermiston. Rodriguez and the survivor once had a relationship, Edmiston said, and have a child together.

Edmiston said Rodriguez stripped the victim, bruised and groped her, and choked her for about 30 seconds. Rodriguez stands 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighs 220 pounds, according to his booking information.

Hermiston police tracked down Rodriguez on Wednesday and



Rodriguez

detective Robert Guerrero questioned him at the police station, 330 S. First St. Edmiston said after the interview, Guerrero arrested Rodriguez and booked him into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Edmiston said Hermiston police cited Rodriguez 10 times and arrested him once before, but he was a juvenile during most of those incidents. Court records show he pleaded no contest in March to operating a vehicle without driving privileges and driving uninsured.

PENDLETON

SeaPort Airlines working to rebuild customer confidence after bankruptcy

Monthly passenger count lower than last year’s mark

By **ANTONIO SIERRA**
East Oregonian

SeaPort Airlines performance may have recovered from a rough first quarter, but Pendleton customers haven’t followed at the same rate.

Through June, SeaPort is averaging 8.4 boardings per day, well below the 11.4 average set last year and the 10 passengers per flight average the U.S. Department of Transportation mandates for the Essential Air Service federal subsidy.

The department has already tentatively stripped Pendleton of the subsidy for being too close to its destination at the Portland International Airport, but that’s currently in limbo after the city and SeaPort filed an objection.

Commercial flights performed well at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport in 2015, the 4,277 boardings marking the first time that figure has increased since 2012.

But SeaPort’s 239 boardings in January 2016 was 200 less than the year before and continued to fall through April.

Coinciding with the airline’s bankruptcy and a bevy of flight cancellations and late flights, SeaPort President Tim Sieber said they weren’t a good airline.

Although the company’s performance has rebounded since then — SeaPort recently touted 100 days without a cancellation — the airline’s monthly passenger count in Pendleton has yet to meet last year’s marks.

Sieber said SeaPort’s revamped marketing efforts and better performance is aimed at restoring customer confidence in the airline.

“It took us a long time to destroy our reputation,” he

said. “It’s going to take us a while to build it back up.” Sieber said many flights from Pendleton are now 70 percent full, a good percentage for a nine-seat plane.

While consistency and word-of-mouth could help SeaPort sell more tickets, Sieber said the low cost of gas means many Pendleton travelers are opting to travel in their cars.

The total cost in gas from Pendleton to Portland varies depending on the make and model of the car, but it generally costs less than \$50, according to U.S. Department of Energy’s trip calculator. Comparatively, the cheapest ticket for a one-way flight to Portland is \$128.50.

Sieber said the problem is only exacerbated during the summer, when the roads are free of snow and ice.

Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

HERMISTON

UmCo OKs extending fair grounds lease

By **PHIL WRIGHT**
East Oregonian

Umatilla County Board of Commissioners approved its end of a deal to lease the fairgrounds in Hermiston until June 1, 2017.

The board voted 3-0 Wednesday morning at the Umatilla County Courthouse, Pendleton, to extend the lease. Commissioner Larry Givens said that means a high school rodeo and collegiate rodeo can use the Farm-City Pro Rodeo grounds next spring rather than find new venues.

The Hermiston School District owns the fairgrounds at 425 N. Orchard Ave., Hermiston, and leases them to the county at no cost. That lease was to expire Dec. 31, 2016. But pre-construction delays for the new rodeo arena at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center near the Hermiston Municipal Airport prompted the lease extension.

Hermiston schools Superintendent Fred Maiocco

EOTEC board to meet Friday

HERMISTON — The Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center board will meet Friday to discuss awarding a bid for construction of the rodeo arena.

The board hopes to have the arena completed in time to host the 2017 Farm-City Pro Rodeo. At the board’s last meeting John Frew, president of project manager Frew Development Group, said he had concerns about the short timeline but still believed that the right contractor could get the job done in time. Bids are due Thursday and Frew Development Group plans to have a recommendation by Friday morning.

The meeting will also include an opportunity for public comment and the review of three change orders for electrical work.

The EOTEC meeting will be Friday at 7 a.m. at the EOTEC event center building, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston.

discussed the matter during a phone interview Tuesday evening. He said the extension helps the district save some money. If the county relinquished the site at the end of December, the school district would have been solely responsible for providing oversight and security at the grounds. Ending the lease at the start of June, he said, means the

county shoulders that burden instead.

The Hermiston School Board must also approve the extension.

Maiocco also said the district will demolish the site next summer and get it ready for new school construction. He said the school board and the public should get their first peek at new design concepts in fall 2017.

BRIEFLY

Treasure hunt continues in Hermiston

HERMISTON — The annual National Night Out Treasure Hunt is underway in Hermiston.

The rules and first clue were printed in Wednesday’s *East Oregonian* and an additional bonus clue appeared on the front page of Wednesday’s *Hermiston Herald*. The person who finds the golden medallion will win an ice cream social block party Tuesday, Aug. 2 as part of the National Night Out activities.

When you find the medallion, you must immediately turn it in to the Hermiston Police Department. If it’s after 6 p.m., call 541-966-3651 or 541-567-5519 and ask dispatch to notify Erica Sandoval, Hermiston Police Department crime prevention/youth services officer.

Clue No. 2

Read the clues and between the line
Look high, look low
Which way do you go
Think of a '71 hit, it might break your mind

For more information, call 541-276-7101.

Driving class offers safety tips

PENDLETON — A driver safety refresher course will provide information about defensive driving skills, safety strategies and current rules of the road.

Although the course is designed for adults 55 and up, all licensed drivers are invited to attend. The class also gives practical tips on how to manage age-related

changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

The session is Saturday, Aug. 6 from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. in conference rooms 1 and 2 at St. Anthony Hospital, 2801 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton. The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for others. People need to make their own arrangements to eat during the lunch break. Pre-registration is requested.

For more information or to register, call Nikki Murtaugh at 541-861-0024.

Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Senior center fires up the grill

PENDLETON — The public is invited to enjoy hot dogs and hamburgers during a picnic sponsored by the Pendleton Senior Center.

The all-ages event is Friday at noon in the Kiwanis Shelter at Community Park, 1000 S.W. 37th St., Pendleton. Punch and table service will be provided. Also, prizes will be given. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish to share and a lawn chair.

Hermiston, Oregon
Wednesday-Saturday • 7:45 pm

August 10-13, 2016

For ticket information, call or go online:
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