

Sheriff's office provides 'Backpacks for Kids'

The Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation, recently provided 114 backpacks filled with crayons, pens, pencils, notebooks and other school supplies to eight local schools.

Foundation Director Krina Lee, along with her husband, delivered boxes of school supplies and backpacks to the sheriff's office on Aug. 26. The Backpacks for Kids idea was thought up by Lee's brother, Umatilla County Reserve Deputy Dave Shotts.

Sheriff's office staff filled each of the backpacks, which were delivered recently to elementary schools in Athena, Echo, Umatilla, Pilot Rock, Hermiston, Stanfield, Pendleton and Milton-Freewater.

"We look forward to continuing this partnership, and working together on projects like this in the future," the sheriff's office said in a press release.



Students from McNary Heights Elementary School received backpacks from the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office.

Photo contributed by Jim Littlefield

Hermiston woman wins homemaker award

It's not every year that the Umatilla County Fair gets to announce a Homemaker of the Year, due to the very specific requirements that must be met in order to win the title.

However, the 2016 award went to Teresa Veach, who met the requirements of a minimum of five entries per department in Textiles & Needlecraft, Clothing, Baked Foods and Food Preservation. In addition, the winner must receive at least three blue ribbons in each department.

Growing up in

southern Oregon, Veach has lived in Hermiston for 28 years. She teaches middle school and high school business and math.

Veach learned to bake early. She was taught by her mother, who encouraged Veach as a freshman to take a semester of sewing. Since then, she has continued to make clothing for her parents, nieces and for herself.

Her grandmother taught her how to crochet, beginning with a pair of Granny Square slippers. She has been canning for the last dozen years or so.

However, it was only a few years ago that Veach realized "Open Class" meant she could enter items in the fair, win ribbons and earn premiums. When she picked up the exhibitors guide, the words "Homemaker of the Year" caught her eye. She thought it looked like a fun challenge, so she got busy. This was the first year that Veach qualified with enough entries — which ended up with her winning the 2016 Umatilla County Fair Homemaker of the Year.



Teresa Veach of Hermiston was named the Umatilla County Fair 2016 Homemaker of the Year.

Contributed photo

Pendleton woman rolls into hall of fame

Betty Branstetter was recently inducted into the Oregon State Bowling Hall of Fame.

The Pendleton woman was recognized for meritorious service during the July 30 event at Seven Feathers Casino in Canyonville.

An advocate for the sport of bowling for more than 50 years, Branstetter has served in many capacities to help further the activity — director of District 5 for the Oregon State Women's International Bowling Congress, president of the Pendleton Women's Association and director for the Umatilla County USBC and delegate to the National Bowling Convention for more than 25 years. In addition, she was chairwoman of the Bowling Veteran's Link, which is one of bowling's oldest charities.

Branstetter's career bowling average ranges from 165-175. In her acceptance speech, Branstetter said it was nice to receive an honor for something she loves to do.



Betty Branstetter receives a plaque from Barb Hoffman as she is inducted into the Oregon State Bowling Hall of Fame for meritorious service.

Photo contributed by Teresa Fine

Health foundation awards grants

In September, the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation awarded \$33,154 in health-related grants to nonprofit organizations to benefit their work in local communities. The recipients were:

Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School, \$2,659; Made to Thrive, \$5,200; CAPECO, \$1,500; America Youth Soccer, \$750; Umatilla Police Department, \$2,100; Hermiston Fire & Emergency, \$15,000; and Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, \$5,945.

As a community foundation, it strives to help improve the quality of life and health of the local community. Grants for worthwhile projects are reviewed and awarded twice a year, in March and September. The deadline for spring grants is Jan. 31, and fall grants is July 31.

For more information, contact Bob Green at 541-667-3419, rgreen@gshealth.org. A grant application is available at www.gshealth.org/foundation.

ENGAGEMENT

DeMoss-Harrison

Mark and Carolann DeMoss of Los Banos, Calif., and Travis and Kirsten Harrison of Lexington, Ore., announce the engagement of their children, Jane DeMoss and Brett Harrison.

The bride-elect graduated from Los Banos High School prior to attending and graduating from Oregon State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal sciences. She now works as a farm loan officer for the Farm Service Agency in Pendleton, Ore.

The groom-elect graduated from Heppner High School prior to attending and graduating from Oregon State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture business management. He now works



Jane DeMoss and Brett Harrison

as a relationship manager for Northwest Farm Credit Services in Pendleton.

The couple plans to be married on September 23, 2017, in Madera, Calif. A local reception to celebrate the couple is scheduled in June for those unable to attend the wedding ceremony.

Community Counseling Solutions receives state award

A regional mental health provider won the 2016 Hero of the Year award for its work in rural Oregon.

The award was presented to Community Counseling Solutions at the 33rd Annual Oregon Rural Health Conference, held Sept. 28-30 in Portland.

The organization provides services in Morrow, Gilliam, Wheeler, Grant and Lake counties. Its services include individual, family and group therapy — including gambling counseling,

alcohol and drug treatment, 24-hour crisis intervention, psychiatric consultations and medication management. In addition, they offer case management for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Kimberly Lindsay is the organization's executive director. For more information, visit www.communitycounselingsolutions.org. For more about the Oregon Office of Rural Health, visit www.ohsu.edu/xd/outreach/oregon-rural-health.

THANK YOU

Physician's wife appreciates Hermiston

My husband, Dr. Guy Oltman, retired on Aug. 31, 2016, having practiced family medicine for 31 years with Hermiston Medical Center, which later became Family Health Associates.

Our family of five moved to Hermiston in late August 1985. Guy worked in the old hospital on Orchard Avenue for four months before our present Good Shepherd Hospital was completed in December.

Our eldest son, Josh, began first grade just a week after our arrival in Hermiston. A fall from the ramp of our U-Haul moving truck made for an eventful beginning to his school career, complete with a cast on his right arm. All three of our boys received an excellent and memorable elementary and junior high education from Hermiston Jr. Academy, and many of those friendships remain today. In fact, two of our sons married local girls (cousins Crystal and Jessica Engelhart) who they were acquainted with from grade school years.

Hermiston will go down in our minds as being a great place to raise our children. The small town, down-home atmosphere, friendly people, and wide-open spaces made for building some great forts and creating splendid childhood memories.

Imagine our delight when our youngest son

Jonas and his wife, Jessica, chose to return to Hermiston in 2014. Both have been fellow health care providers, along with Guy, at the Family Health Associates Clinic. Working alongside his children has made these last years of Guy's medical practice especially fulfilling.

As Guy's wife, I can testify to the long hours he worked, his dedication to his profession and his commitment to providing the best possible care to the myriad of patients who placed their trust in him. Many were the birthday parties he missed (including his own), the interrupted holidays, the sleepless nights etc. But there was never a complaint at least never from Guy. He dreamed of becoming a doctor from early childhood, and he never wavered in his love for his work.

Our many thanks to the greater Hermiston community, hospital board, administration and personnel, work associates, employees and thousands of patients through the years who have made Guy's medical practice most rewarding.

The outpouring of love and gratitude at the time of his retirement has been overwhelming and so very much appreciated. We couldn't allow this milestone in our lives to pass without thanking each one for the wonderful privilege that has been ours in calling Hermiston home and each of you, our extended family.

Paula Oltman Hermiston

BIRTHS

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton
SEPT. 30, 2016
PIPER — Joselyn M. Piper and David R. Piper of Heppner: a boy, Dillan James Piper.

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston
SEPT. 22, 2016
CLAWSON — Amanda Clawson and Scott Clawson of Hermiston: a boy, Connor Scott Clawson.

SEPT. 23, 2016
ANGEL — Cristina Angel and Jose A. Angel of Umatilla: a girl, Aliya Angel.

SEPT. 27, 2016

VIEIRA — Cynthia J. Vieira and Joseph V. Vieira of Hermiston: a girl, Estela Lea Vieira.

SEPT. 28, 2016
PALUSO — Darcie Paluso and Jason Paluso of Hermiston: a boy, Jarhett Lane Paluso.

SEPT. 29, 2016
COX — Arraceli M. Flores and Kenneth H. Cox III of Hermiston: a girl, Auriella Rose Cox.

SEPT. 30, 2016
SORENSEN — Sonja M. Sorensen and Jake N. Sorensen of Boardman: a girl, Serenity Rose Sorensen.
TORRE — Breezy S. Torre and Joseph S. Torre of

Hermiston: a girl, Brittany Lynn Torre.

OCT. 1, 2016
SPARKS — Jordaeen Martinez and Dionte Sparks of Irrigon: a girl, Zoe Lynn Sparks.

OCT. 2, 2016
BURGUS — Rebecca Burgus and Carl Burgus of Umatilla: a boy, Ezekiel Eugene Burgus.

Oregon Health & Science University Hospital Portland

SEPT. 18, 2016
CHANDLER — Julia M.S. Chandler and Matthew S. Chandler of Pendleton: a boy, Zane Gilbert Chandler.

Pet of the Week



TOES

If you're ready to welcome a new furry friend in to your home, consider TOES as your first choice from PAWS! Come visit her at our free roaming room. Toes is a polydactyl, meaning she has extra toes. She's not only a beautiful calico, but is also an independent kind of girl even though she can't resist to be petted and loved on. Her adoption fee of \$75 includes her spay, FELV/FIV tested negative, current on vaccinations and ready to go home with you. Come to PAWS located at 517 SE 3rd St in Pendleton or call 541-276-0181 for more information on Toes and all of our furry friends.

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506 Pets Adopted in 2016!

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.