

HERMISTON

Student voters pick Clinton, Brown

East Oregonian

If it was up to students at Hermiston High School, Hillary Clinton would become the 45th president of the United States and Kate Brown would keep her place in the Oregon governor's mansion.

But not by much. Released the day ballots are due in the 2016 election, results from the high school mock election, which polled 368 students, show Clinton with about 37 percent of the vote and Donald Trump receiving 33 percent in the presidential race. Gary Johnson, the Libertarian candidate, got nearly 15 percent of the vote and Jill Stein (Green) and McMullin (write-in) each had about 7.5 percent.

Oregon governor's race was even tighter, and Libertarian candidate James Foster drew nearly even with the major party

candidates. Brown, the incumbent Democrat, took 37 percent — 136 votes and the exact same slice of the electorate as Clinton.

Bud Pierce, a Republican and political newcomer, fell five votes short and took about 35.5 percent of the vote, while Foster's 101 votes gave him a 27.5 percent slice of the pie.

The high school voters also re-elected Sheriff Terry Rowan in a landslide with 71 percent of the vote. Rowan lives in Hermiston and lost by a similar margin in Pendleton High School's mock election results last week to challenger Ryan Lehnert, who is from Pendleton.

The student voters in Hermiston also firmly failed Measure 97, a corporate sales tax that would fund education. About 55 percent of voters were against the measure.

BRIEFLY

Fingerprints confirm ID of body found near Columbia River

Umatilla County undersheriff Jim Littlefield reported the sheriff's office has identified the body found Friday at the Sand Station Recreation Area on the Columbia River.

Littlefield said the body was male and the identity was confirmed via fingerprints. The sheriff's office now is trying to find and notify relatives, he said, before releasing more information.

Someone stopped Friday afternoon to use the facilities at Sand Station on Highway 730 about 10 miles northeast of Hermiston, according to police sources, but the restrooms were closed or unavailable due to cleaning. While seeking a place for relief, the person happened upon the body.

Four members of the police department of Richland, Washington, searched the area Saturday to find if the body was connected to one of their cases. They gave no indication of finding anything. Littlefield said he was checking with Richland police to find out more.

Confluence gatherings to share stories

MISSION — Story-driven discussions, framed by excerpts from interviews of native elders and leaders, are featured during Confluence Story Gatherings.

The series of public forums are intended to elevate indigenous voices in the understanding and as a way to explore the interconnectedness of people and places of the Columbia River system. The first gathering is Saturday at 2 p.m. at Tamastlikt Cultural Institute, located near Wildhorse Resort & Casino off Interstate 84 at Exit 216, Mission. The event is free and open to the public.

First-person story telling has a unique power to deepen understanding of the histories, cultures and environment that surrounds us. The events will feature video or audio selections narratives, produced by partners at NW Documentary, followed by a discussion led by a panel of native elders, leaders and writers. So far, Confluence Story Gathering interviews include:

Greg Archuleta (Grand Ronde), Virginia Beavert (Yakama), Roberta and Leah Conner (Umatilla), Johnny Jackson (Yakama), Louie Pitt (Warm Springs), Aurelia Staccona (Warm Springs), Wilfred and Bessie Scott (Nez Perce) and Wilbur Slockish (Yakama).

For more information, call 541-429-7700 or visit www.tamastlikt.org.

Agape House gobbles up murder mystery

HERMISTON — The public is invited to bring an appetite for murder as Agape House presents "Gobble, Gobble Death and Trouble."

The murder mystery dinner presentation features smoked turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls and dessert. The event is Saturday at 6 p.m. in the Altrusa Room at Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston. The cost is \$25 per person.

The participatory event includes an opportunity for amateur sleuths to play Sherlock Holmes. Dinner guests will investigate the murder of chef Ramsey Gordon, whose turkey recipe is famous around the world.

Money raised from the event will be used by Agape House to serve those in need in the community. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call Dave Hughes at 541-567-8774.

IMAC meeting features authors' sharing

IRRIGON — The annual meeting of the Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center features a spaghetti meal and a program with local authors.

Everyone is invited to the event, which is Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 195 Opal Place, Irrigon. The cost of the meal is \$6.

Local authors can still join the program to share about their books and discuss their inspiration in writing them.

Money raised benefits the Irrigon Multicultural Arts Center project. The nonprofit group hopes to develop a regional arts center and preserve Irrigon's 1921 school building.

For more information, call Jeff Wenzholz at 541-571-6944, Peggy Price at 541-567-3806 or Don/Donna Eppenbach at 541-922-3197.

PENDLETON

Salvation Army rings in Red Kettle season

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

The Salvation Army Pendleton Corps is ringing in the holiday season with a fundraising gala dinner and auction.

The traditional Red Kettle Campaign — which helps ensure that children get a toy for Christmas, families have food on the table and people receive assistance to keep a roof over their head — is familiar during the holiday season. Bell ringers stationed next to a Red Kettle accept donations that help raise money for The Salvation Army.

The gala event is kicking off the 2016 Red Kettle campaign. The evening features a tri-tip beef barbecue dinner sponsored by St. Anthony Hospital, live entertainment by the Peace Lutheran Bell Choir and an auction. The event is Saturday, Nov. 19 from 5:30-8 p.m. at The Salvation Army Community Center, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased at The Salvation Army or the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce.

Items up for bid include tickets to the Civil War game between the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, 16 tickets to see the Tri-City Americans, sterling silver jewelry, collectibles, artwork and even a truckload of gravel.

"Supporters of our Red Kettle campaign can help



File photo
Maria Tovar rings a bell for The Salvation Army's 2015 Red Kettle campaign outside the Hermiston Safeway. The Salvation Army is kicking off the 2016 season with a Nov. 19 gala fundraising dinner and auction at its community center in Pendleton.

give us a head start on ringing our bells to help the needy," said Mary Corp, The Salvation Army advisory board chairwoman. "We are hoping to make this a record-setting year for donations and the kick-off dinner will be a great way to start."

The Red Kettle Campaign began in 1891 in San Francisco, and has since become a Christmas tradition. According to the organization's website, Salvation Army captain Joseph McFee was determined to provide a free Christmas meal to the area's most destitute.

He got the idea of setting

up a kettle for donations from his days as a sailor in England. Passersby tossed coins into a large, iron kettle called "Simpson's Pot" located at Stage Landing. Money was used to help the poor.

McFee placed a pot at the Oakland Ferry Landing with a sign that read "Keep the Pot Boiling." Within a few years, the kettle idea spread across the United States. Upwards of 4.5 million now receive assistance from The Salvation Army between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The Red Kettle campaign assists the organization in providing year-around

programs to help those in need. The Salvation Army offers programs for children and youths, feeding the hungry and providing food boxes and other family services.

For more information about the event or how to volunteer as a bell ringer, contact Susan Lamb at 541-276-3369, susan.lamb@usw.salvationarmy.org or visit www.facebook.com/salarmypendleton.

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

PENDLETON

Schools to Careers program kicks off next week

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

Less than halfway into the school year, the Pendleton School District is ready to send some of its high school students to work.

At a Pendleton School board meeting Tuesday, representatives from Eastern Oregon Business Source told the board that they would start sending students to career placements at local businesses next week as a part of the district's Schools to Careers program.

As a part of a \$390,745 career technical education grant from the state, the district contracted with Eastern Oregon Business Source to help establish the

program and hire Schools to Careers coordinator Christina van der Kamp, a former Washington Elementary School teacher.

Susan Bower, the president of Eastern Oregon Business Source, said she and van der Kamp have about 200 students and 100 businesses interested in participating in the program.

Although a majority of those students will start work experience placements during the second semester, van der Kamp said a small group will start working at Roosters, St. Anthony Hospital and Pendleton Coffee Bean and Bistro next week.

"We want to help them see that they have stronger

options when it comes to careers. We want to go out and make some connections, build some skills, motivate them to graduate," she said. "We also want to help local business and industry,"

In addition to Pendleton High School, van der Kamp said placements will be available to students at Nixyaawii Community School and the district's alternative and special education programs.

As preparation for the placement, Bower and van der Kamp will lead a training that will focus on the basics of professionalism like cell phone usage and proper interaction with colleagues.

Van der Kamp said most placements will happen after

school and on weekends, but teachers do have the ability to schedule them into the school day and arrange for transportation.

CTE coordinator Curt Thompson described transportation to and from job sites as a "sticky" situation for some students. Van der Kamp said she is already trying to address it with a grant from the Education Foundation of Pendleton to buy vouchers for Pendleton's dial-a-ride program, although a solution is still needed for students coming to and from the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

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

Health insurance 101 breaks down barriers to coverage

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Young adults remain the largest uninsured group in the country. Yet not one of them attended Tuesday's informational seminar about health insurance at Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton.

Amy Coven, outreach and education coordinator with the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace, and Marina Cassandra, the regional outreach coordinator with the Oregon Health Authority, presented "Health Insurance 101" on the ins-and-outs of health insurance and coverage in Oregon. Coven said she gave the presentation eight times before, including in Hermiston, Milton-Freewater and La Grande, and as many as 28 people attended.

Tuesday they had only a couple, including Michelle Dowd, the Oregon Health

Plan advisor for Umatilla County, one of the state's partners in getting people coverage.

Still, the pair covered a lot of ground in about an hour, from basic vocabulary — "premium," "deductible," "network" — to how the federal Affordable Care Act determines those premiums and what kinds of insurance plans qualify for financial assistance and tax credits.

While the workshops are open to the public, Coven said that plugging young people into the insurance equation is a priority. Younger people, particularly young Millennials, are healthy and might think they don't need insurance or consider it a luxury they can't afford, she said, and their lack of participation skews the rates higher for the rest.

A chunk of the presentation took on the myths

of insurance complexities and costs to convince more people to obtain coverage rather than go without and pay a tax penalty. For 2017, that comes to at least \$695 for every adult in a family, plus \$347.50 for every child.

The annual health insurance enrollment period opened last week and runs through Jan. 31, 2017. Coven said people need to sign up by Dec. 15 to get coverage by the first of January.

And they can do that

Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, at BMCC, Pendleton, where outside the cafeteria at Pioneer Hall will be the site of an insurance resource fair and room 205 in the Science & Technology Building will have an enrollment fair. Cassandra and Coven said there will be staff on hand to answer question and walk people through the process of getting insurance.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

Pendleton Book Co.
Tremendous Trio Book Signing!
November 19th from 5-7pm
John Groupe
Becky Waggoner
Rick Steber
125 S. Main St., Pendleton, OR 97801
(541) 276-9292 • penbkco@eonet.net

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KYLE CLOSE
Nixyaawii Community School

Nixyaawii Community School would like to recognize Kyle Close as our student of the week. Kyle is a 10th grader, he was nominated by the principal for this honor. Kyle has maintained great attendance and earned a 4.0 for the first quarter. Kyle is well liked by his peers, shows great character, and a pleasure to have in class. Outside of school Kyle enjoys lacrosse and video games. Congratulations Kyle!

Proudly Sponsored by

CHI St. Anthony Hospital
2801 St. Anthony Way, Pendleton, OR • 541-276-5121

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS
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.