



Members of the Hermiston Noon Kiwanis and employees of Roger's Toyota provided a donation of kayaks for Outdoor School. They were thanked by Hermiston School district representatives and fifth grade students from Desert View, Highland Hills, Rocky Heights and Sunset elementary schools.

Outdoor School paddles away with donation

Thanks to a donation from Roger's Toyota and the Hermiston Noon Kiwanis Club, Hermiston fifth grade students enjoyed the use of kayaks during Outdoor School. The donation also included paddles and life vests.

A few of the students and organizers recently headed to Roger's Toyota to personally thank them and the Kiwanis for their generous donation. As a pilot program, the students attended Outdoor School during the fall so organizers could evaluate

the learning environment as compared to going in the spring time. For many students, this is the first time they've experienced learning in the outdoors. Outdoor School has been possible with the support of many organizations,

including Wal-Mart, Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation, Wildhorse Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation-RAI Project and Tom Denchel Ford Country (through Drive One 4 UR School).

Tamástslikt wins

Honoring Nations recently presented an award to **Tamástslikt Cultural Institute**, along with five other exemplary tribal programs. They were recognized for "Ćaw Pawá Láakni" – They Are Not Forgotten – a living atlas of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla nations. It contains 643 data entries of places, waterways, areas, trails, and bodies of water as well as more than 70 maps and illustrations. The atlas is actively utilized to protect treaty rights, assist in the management of natural resources, and transmit traditional cultural, linguistic and ecological knowledge. The award was presented Oct. 12 during the **National Congress for American**

Indians' 73rd convention in Phoenix, Arizona. As the flagship program of **The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development**, Honoring Nations began in 1998 to recognize and celebrate American Indian governments who were successfully addressing the most pressing issues across Indian country. Tamástslikt Cultural Institute is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. It's located near **Wildhorse Resort & Casino**. For more information, visit www.tamastlikt.org. For more information about Honoring Nations, visit www.hpaied.org or call 617-495-1480.

Rural veterans receive transportation help

The **Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs** recently received a federal Veterans Administration grant to invest a half-million dollars into the transportation needs of veterans living in highly rural Oregon counties. This is the third year in a row the department has received one of the VA's **Highly Rural Transportation Grants**. Distance and transportation to and from appointments are routinely cited by rural veterans as the main obstacles to obtaining health care. Oregon has 10 counties that are considered "highly rural" by the U.S. Census Bureau: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Lake, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Wallowa and Wheeler. "It's not enough to just provide quality health care for veterans. We must also ensure that all veterans have access to it — no matter where they choose to live," said **Cameron Smith**, ODVA director.

Oregon received the maximum award of \$50,000 for each participating county. The ODVA, in partnership with each county or transportation district, utilizes the money in conjunction with existing programs and innovative new approaches to medical transportation in order to get the maximum value from each grant. "The success of this program really boils down to the creativity of these counties and transportation districts," said **Mitch Sparks**, director of statewide veterans' services for ODVA. "We didn't dictate to them how the money should be spent." Free transportation to and from medical appointments (not just those at VA facilities) is available to any veteran living in one of the participating highly rural counties. Veteran living in one of the 10 participating counties can contact local veteran's offices for more information.

THANK YOU

For Wyden's commitment to hospice

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Ron Wyden along with a few of my colleagues to talk about several issues facing the Oregon hospice community. We were also able to share some stories about how hospices are helping Oregonians every day here in Portland. I want to thank Sen. Wyden for taking the time to meet with us and for being a longtime supporter of hospice. I feel honored to have him as an end of life champion in the Portland community. At the meeting, the senator spoke positively about hospice and his interest in policies to expand the appropriate use of the Medicare Hospice Benefit. I look forward to continuing work with Sen. Wyden in the future on these hospice issues and bringing awareness of the amazing benefits that hospice offers. The Oregon community is lucky to have such a passionate advocate for hospice issues representing us in the United States Senate. **Leeanne Sutton**, executive director Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care of Oregon

For sheriff's office response

Last month, our car broke down on the back roads of Athena and we moved it to the corner of a nearby field for the night. Soon after we arrived home, we received a call from a patrolling deputy of the **Umatilla County Sheriff's Department** who had observed our abandoned car. Noticing that our vehicle was out of place and unattended, he called to see if he could be of assistance to us. This is the type of security we sincerely appreciate from **Sheriff Rowan** and our sheriff's department. Keep up the great work and thank you for what you do! **Kenzie and Emily Hansell** Athena



Photo contributed by Terroll Marshall

Day of Service tackles old city hall project

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and other community members recently worked together for a Day of Service. The Oct. 22 project included cleaning debris from the old Pendleton city hall building.

Pig raffle provides fat check for Special Olympics

Due to the generous donation of a pig by **Francisco Torres**, uncle of Special Olympics athlete **Luz Torres**, \$1,255 was raised from the sale of raffle tickets for **Hermiston/Pendleton Special Olympic Program No. 510**. A pair of winners, **Jeff Moody** and **Donna Tassie**, each received half of the pig, which was cut and wrapped at no charge, as the services were donated by **Follett Meat Co.** of Hermiston. There is no charge for athletes with developmental and intellectual disabilities to participate in the program. Fundraisers like the raffle provide the program an opportunity to offer year-round specialized sports training and participation in competitions. For more information about participating or volunteering with Special Olympics, call **Kristi Smalley** at 541-571-0997.



Photo contributed by Kristi Smalley

Doris Boatright, head Special Olympics bowling coach, and athlete Luz Torres draw the winning tickets for a pig during a raffle to benefit the local program.

BIRTHS

St. Anthony Hospital NOV. 21, 2016
THORNE — Kylie L. Bronson and Logan J.I. Thorne of Pendleton: a girl, Laykin Rae Thorne.
NOV. 23, 2016
SANCHEZ — Sara E. Surratt and Jesus A. Sanchez Hilario of Umatilla: a girl, Graciela Maylynn Sanchez.
NOV. 25, 2016
BESSETTE — Carolyn E. Bessette and Nathan J. Bessette of Pendleton: a boy,

Finn Nathaniel Bessette.
NOV. 28, 2016
MATHENY — Chelsea Matheny and Stefan Matheny of Lexington: a girl, Scout Maxwell Matheny
Good Shepherd Medical Center NOV. 23, 2016
HERMANN — Anne M. Hermanns and Andrew W. Hermanns of Irrigon: a boy, Obadiah John Hermanns.
NOV. 24, 2016
CONTRERAS MORENO — Jessica Moreno and Mario Contreras of Hermiston: a girl, Paloma Contreras Moreno.
NOV. 26, 2016
CRAIG — Whitney B. Craig and Spencer A. Craig of Hermiston: a boy, Jeremiah Jameson Craig.
NOV. 28, 2016
VELIZ — Andrea Veliz and Pete Veliz of Umatilla: a girl, Sadie Laine Veliz.

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

Addy

PAWS is offering a special half price adoption special for Addy to persons 55 and up. Addy is a nice and friendly senior dog who is vivacious and intelligent. She's still a pup at heart, and needs daily exercise. She would do well in an apartment or home with a yard to play. If Addy sounds like the right companion for you, come to PAWS Tues-Sat from 12-4pm located at 517 SE 3rd St in Pendleton and give her a forever home!

Visit ADDY at the Pioneer Humane Society/Paws Tues - Sat • Noon - 4pm • 517 SE 3rd ST, Pendleton 541-276-0181
Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

Have a Happy HOLIDOGS!

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