

ATHENA

Weston-McEwen student nominated for service academy

East Oregonian

Hayden Scott of Athena was one of three students nominated by Rep. Greg Walden for acceptance to U.S. service academies.

Scott was nominated to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Military Academy. He is the son of Paul and Kara Scott and a student at Weston-McEwen High School.

Wyatt Perry of La Grande and William Decker of The Dalles were also nominated by Walden's Service Academy Nomination Board to the U.S. Air Force Academy. The board, made up of active and retired military officers, interviews candidates and makes recommendations based on their academic performance, extracurricular activities and character.

"I am honored and privileged to nominate these remarkable young Oregonians to our nation's service academies," Walden said in a statement. "Their years of hard work and dedication have led to these much deserved nominations.



Hayden Scott does a pre-flight check on a Cessna 172 before taking off in March 2016 out of the airport in Walla Walla.

These students have shown a desire to grow intellectually, lead by example, and serve their country by pursuing a higher education at one our country's

select service academies." Final selection for admission to the academies will be determined by academy officials in the spring.

HERMISTON

Cabin Fever brings warmth to winter blues

Music, comedy show features local talent

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

After a bone-chilling cold holiday season, John Wambeke & Friends provide a welcome reprieve — ushering in 2017 with a pair of Cabin Fever shows.

The annual event heats up with music, laughter and lots of familiar faces. Instead of whistling while he works, Wambeke dreams up acts and sketches for the yearly concert.

"You can tell I have way too much time to think," he said with an exuberant laugh. "My job is too easy."

Washing windows, the Hermiston man said, doesn't require the use of many brain cells. The result — his creative juices have lots of time to simmer while climbing ladders and wielding a squeegee.

Wambeke likens Cabin Fever to "The Carol Burnett Show" meets "Hee Haw." And, there will be lots of pickin' and grinnin' as the inner workings of Wambeke's mind unfolds on stage.

Among the cast of characters Wambeke has assembled over the years



John Wambeke & Friends return for the ninth annual Cabin Fever concert at the Hermiston Conference Center. Tickets for the Jan. 14 and 21 shows are available at Cottage Flowers.

is Joe Lindsay. Wambeke is convinced the Lexington farmer is cut from the same cloth.

Lindsay, Wambeke said, is known for his crazy songs. Participating in a handful of the Cabin Fever shows, he said Lindsay has carved out a niche.

"He's the king of commercials," Wambeke said.

Lindsay highlights the event sponsors during short vignettes — which, Wambeke said provides a fun and memorable way to say thanks to those that

support the show.

Among the show's returnees are Corey Cooley, Jimmy Creason, Eric Jepsen, Luke Basile and the Frazer Wambeke Trio, which includes Frazer Wambeke (piano/guitar/vocals), Juan Hernandez (bass) and Derek Munson (drums).

Of course, Cabin Fever wouldn't be compete without Thelma and Eunice. Wambeke and Pat Ward don wigs for their recurring sketch as the quirky spinsters. The 2017 show catches up with the duo as they stage a cooking show.

IRRIGON

Housing program to encourage building homes

By GEORGE PLAGEN
East Oregonian

The city of Irrigon has amended its Housing Development Program to provide greater incentive for building new homes in and around the community.

The program, which launched in February 2015, is funded by the Columbia River Enterprise Zone and administered through the Boardman Community Development Association. It provides grants for homebuyers to purchase or build houses within the Irrigon ZIP code, so long as they

live and work in Morrow County.

Applicants originally received \$5,000 grants, though homebuyers intending to purchase an existing home will now receive only \$2,000. Anyone looking to construct a new permanent home is still eligible for the full \$5,000. The changes were approved Tuesday by the Irrigon City Council.

"If people are building a home, they'll get a much bigger incentive," said city manger Aaron Palmquist.

Since the Housing Development Program was

established, Palmquist said the city has awarded 62 applications, with 15 more in the queue. However, among those, just three have resulted in new developments.

"That's not really a good percentage," Palmquist said.

In addition, Palmquist said the changes will make the program more sustainable, and allow more people to potentially receive grants and move into town.

"Our council is looking at how can we have strength and stability in the program, as well as longevity," he said.

In order to qualify for a grant through the Irrigon Housing Development Program, applicants must first attend a homebuyers training class offered through CAPECO. The house must be used as the applicant's primary dwelling for at least five years. No funding will be awarded until all conditions have been met.

For more information, contact Irrigon City Hall at 541-922-3047.

Contact George Plagen at gplagen@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0825.

HERMISTON



Photo contributed by Good Shepherd Medical Center
Pictured back row from left to right: Rick Sherman, Steve Eldridge, Dennis Burke, Kelly Sanders, Jim Schlenker; Front Row: Chief Scott Stanton, Kaitlyn Jackson, Theresa Brock, JW Roberts, Danny Hinton, Dylan Spence.

Good Shepherd donates life-saving equipment to fire department

East Oregonian

The Umatilla County Fire District 1 received an early gift from Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation — five Zoll X series monitor and defibrillator combinations, and a donation of \$15,000 toward the purchase of another monitor. The monitors cost about \$32,000 each.

The new monitors will allow all emergency responders to be trained on the same device, according to a press release from Good Shepherd.

"Being able to have all monitors the exact same is an enormous advantage," said Capt. J.W. Roberts in the release. "Crews will only need to be proficient on a single machine, no matter which unit they are responding on, significantly reducing the potential for errors while simplifying training."

The new monitors include features like diagnostic tools, which can detect heart attacks, respiratory issues and

other potential problems in patients. They provide automatic defibrillation, and coach emergency crews on high-quality ventilations and chest compressions. The monitors can retrieve vital signs quickly and accurately, and immediately show breathing and airway status. The monitors also have a feature that will detect carbon monoxide poisoning in any patient, and can be used to test whether firefighters have been overexposed to smoke.

"When a first responder uses a monitor, it can be linked directly to the emergency room, giving our physicians an opportunity to make an informed decision about the patient and the appropriate care they should receive upon arrival," said Good Shepherd president and CEO Dennis Burke in the release. "It will also help EMS and physicians make decisions on where patients should go for treatment — if a more invasive course of action is determined."

BRIEFLY

Missing hunter found dead in Wallowa County

ENTERPRISE — A Lostine man died of natural causes while hunting outside of Wallowa on Saturday.

Scott Colony, 65, of Lostine, was found dead by Wallowa County Search and Rescue team, which had received a call of an overdue hunter at 5:19 p.m. that day.

The team found Colony's vehicle parked in Little Bear Creek and at 9:30 p.m. located his body in rugged terrain above the vehicle.

Wallowa County Sheriff Steve Rogers said Colony likely died from a medical issue.

Sager hired as court services manager

MISSION — Kelly J. Sager will serve as the first court services manager for Tribal Court for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Sager is currently an attorney and director of the CTUIR's Office of Child Support Enforcement. She will assume her newly-

created position Jan. 1. According to a news release, the position was created to meet the demands of the court's expanding responsibilities under the federal Violence Against Women Act, the Tribal Law and Order Act and the court's recent designation as an authorized participant with the National Crime Information Center.

In a statement, Judge Bill Johnson said Sager is a "much valued addition to the Court."

"She will enhance the Court's ongoing mission to provide highly professional and efficient criminal and civil judicial services to Tribal members and the community-at-large and maintain and advance the high standard of administration of justice that the Court has established," Johnson said.

He said under Sager's leadership the Office of Child Support Enforcement provided much-needed financial support for "the Tribe's most valuable resource, its children."

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press_releases_to_news@eastoregonian.com

PENDLETON

Traffic stop leads to arrest of wanted robbery suspect

East Oregonian

Pendleton police during a traffic stop caught a criminal suspect they wanted for more than a month.

Benjamin Breazille, 41, of Pendleton, was the passenger in a car police stopped for multiple violations early Tuesday on the 800 block of Southeast Byers Avenue, Pendleton, according to police chief Stuart Roberts. An officer saw Breazille was not wearing a seatbelt and decided to cite him for the traffic violation.

Breazille, though, "gave multiple false names and dates of birth," Roberts reported, to conceal his

identity. Officers eventually identified Breazille and found he had a parole violation warrant and was wanted in connection to a Nov. 12 crime.

A man that date at about 8:30 at night caught a male breaking into his pickup on the 400 block of Northwest Bailey Avenue.

"When the owner confronted Breazille near the vehicle, Breazille assaulted him before fleeing the scene," Roberts reported. "Breazille was an acquaintance of the victim, who positively identified Breazille as the person who unlawfully entered his

vehicle, assaulted him and robbed him (used force to commit theft)."

During the traffic stop Tuesday, police also found Breazille, a convicted felon, had an illegal knife.

Police booked Breazille

into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, on charges stemming from the robbery and assault, as well as for giving false information, felon in possession of a weapon and carrying a concealed weapon.

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