



Oregon FFA, Les Schwab Tire Centers, the Capital Press and East Oregonian teamed up to Drive Away Hunger, collecting more than 500,000 pounds of food for the Oregon Food Bank.

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While many Oregonians got their fill of creamy mashed potatoes, savory turkey and delectable desserts during the holiday season, for some residents the holiday season is more famine than feast.

Recently Oregon FFA and Les Schwab Tire Centers teamed up with the Capital Press and East Oregonian to help combat hunger. The initial goal of raising 250,000 pounds of food in 2012 seemed daunting but the nearly 6,000 FFA members from more than 100 chapters and Les Schwab Tire Centers across the state made great strides to help provide the Oregon Food Bank and other local food pantries with much needed food.

This year, the Drive Away Hunger event collected more than 500,000 pounds of food. Double the original goal, it's enough to provide 384,615 meals. Over the past two years, the event has raised more than one million pounds of food for those suffering from food insecurity — providing enough food to help more than 2,500 Oregon families for more than a month.

In addition to local chapter efforts, people were encouraged to drop food off at any local Les Schwab Store, and collection bags were distributed by the Capital Press, the East Oregonian and also available at many Les Schwab locations.

“The FFA thanks all the farmers, community members and everyone who dropped off food or gave to this effort,” said Kevin White, executive director of the Oregon FFA Foundation.

To learn more or to get involved, visit the Oregon FFA Facebook page and search #TIREdoHunger.



The Umatilla County Board of Realtors donated bears and stuffed animals to St. Anthony Hospital, which will be distributed to kids who are ill or visiting others in the hospital.

Realtors collect bears for sick kids

The Umatilla County Board of Realtors recently collected stuffed animals to be donated to St. Anthony Hospital.

The group met with Larry Blanc Dec. 13 at St. Anthony and presented items collected through the Good News Bears. The stuffed toys will be distributed to children who are going through trying times with illness or a sick loved one.

The Realtors board participants included Amerititle, Clark Jennings & Associates, Coldwell Banker Whitney and Associates, Pioneer Title and Escrow, Turn Here Realty and Travel, and Whitney Land Company. The group expressed appreciation to the Pendleton Fire Department, Pendleton Police Department, Wal-Mart, Bi-Mart and other community members who dropped off bears at local real estate and title company offices and during the Old Fashioned Holiday Stroll.

Good Shepherd facilitates giving

Approximately 1,725 items were collected during Good Shepherd Health Care System's 12 Days of Giving campaign.

Donated items included diapers, non-perishable food, gloves, personal hygiene products, pet food, socks, shoes, gift cards, bicycles, hats, toys, blankets, scarves, coats, baby supplies, durable medical equipment and \$155.

Charities being supported through the contributions include Agape House, Domestic Violence Services, Clearview Mediation Medical Loan Closet, Eastern Oregon Humane Society, Umatilla/Morrow WIC, Desert Rose Ministries, iCan Bike, Hermiston Warming Station, Friends of Hermiston/Umatilla/Stanfield Libraries, Christmas Express and Stanfield Food Basket.

- ### BIRTHS

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton
DEC. 23, 2016

CARNEY — Amanda Carney and Matthew Carney of Pendleton: twin girls, Harper Nicole Carney and Hazel Marie Carney.
- Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston**
DEC. 13, 2016

LAWRENCE — Brittani R. Lawrence and Gregory A. Lawrence of Irrigon: a boy, Austin Roy Lawrence.
- DEC. 18, 2016**

KELTZ — Sherry M. Keltz and David W. Keltz Jr. of Stanfield: a boy, Dalton Jasper Keltz.
- DEC. 20, 2016**

GARCIA — Cristina Aviles and German A. Garcia Hernandez of Hermiston: a boy, German Elmar Garcia.
- DEC. 22, 2016**

CISNEROS — Sarah A. Patrick and Victor Cisneros of Umatilla: a boy, Dominick Miles Cisneros.
- DEC. 26, 2016**

WILSON — Kelly Wilson and Kyle Wilson of Hermiston: a girl, Hailey Ann Wilson.



Columbia Basin realtors donate to Agape House

The Columbia Basin Board of Realtors presented \$1,795 Dec. 21 to Dave Hughes, third from right, of Agape House in Hermiston. Pictured are board members Clint Fordice, Maggie Coleman, Vickie Ellis, Carl Holt, Dean Kegler, president Suzi Frederickson, Kim Mansfield and Art Kegler.

TOP PHOTOS OF 2016

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A basket carrying riders on a Ferris wheel passes in front of the sun on April 15 at the carnival on Main Street in Pendleton.



Tia, a four-year-old German Shepherd and Belgium Malinois mix, leaps into the air to catch a flying disc for her owner Connie Macomber of Beaverton on Dec. 16 in Pendleton.



Hattie Kramer and Bruce Burke, residents of McKay Creek Estates, played Mrs. and Santa Claus during the facility's staff Christmas party.

McKay Creek celebrates with Santa

Mrs. and Santa Claus — played by McKay Creek Estates residents Hattie Kramer and Bruce Burke — helped staff celebrate during their annual party.

Executive director Noemi Wiseman said the staff in attendance, as well as kids, enjoyed several activities, games, raffle draws, food and picture-taking with Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

“With our busy days at work, it is always good to have time to share special moments and laughter with each other,” Wiseman said.

On behalf of McKay Creek Estates staff, they wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and are hopeful the spirit of Christmas is always in our hearts.

For more information about activities at the center, contact Wiseman at 541-276-1987 or nwiseman@prestigecare.com.

Pet of the Week

MAX

Max is an energetic and playful Texas Heeler that needs room to run. One of his favorite past times is diving for rocks under water. He loves playing fetch and going for car rides. Max needs a home without children or bigger dogs. Max is about 40 pounds, and he likes to smile at visitors. He needs time to feel comfortable around new people. Another interesting fact about Max is he was born on Memorial Day 2015. Max is neutered, up to date on shots and chipped. Come give Max the forever home he deserves. Max is located at PAWS Animal Shelter 517 SE 3rd St. in Pendleton and is available for adoption Tues-Sat 12-4pm.

Visit MAX at the Pioneer Humane Society/Paws
Tues - Sat • Noon - 4pm • 517 SE 3rd ST, Pendleton
541-276-0181

Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

757 Pets Adopted in 2016!

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