



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

**Jim Cheney, owner of the Hill Meat Company, speaks after his business was named the business of the year at the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce's First Citizens Banquet on Friday at Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Mission.**

## PENDLETON: U.S. Bank manager Katie Nooy named boss of the year

Continued from 1A

Wilkins was a member of a 1986 task force that evaluated and made recommendations on Pendleton women's sports as the district faced a potential Title IX lawsuit.

When the Pendleton School Board considered cutting 16 sports, she helped found the Buck Boosters to provide the needed funding.

When she wasn't involved in athletics, Wilkins has also volunteered at West Hills Intermediate School, the Helping Hand food pantry and the First Presbyterian Church.

"It's kind of tiring to think I did all that," she quipped as she accepted her award.

Wilkins credited her passion for volunteering to her father and mother, who is turning 100 this year, suggesting Wilkins has more years of philanthropy ahead of her.

Fouquette also made a name for himself in athletics.

For 35 years, Fouquette was the man who supplied sporting goods to Pendleton's youth as the titular owner of Dean's Pendleton Athletic.

When he wasn't selling kids gear he was coaching them in it, having served as a basketball coach at Blue Mountain Community College, Echo High School, Helix High School and at the AAU level.

Fouquette has also founded or co-founded the Pendleton Outlaws, a baseball team for men 40-plus, the Linebacker's Club, a organization that raises funds for athletics and scholarships, and the Clash at the Border AAU Basketball Tournament.

Among his non-athletic contributions, Fouquette co-chaired the political action committee that helped pass a \$55 million bond in 2013.

Fouquette said Pendleton had a long history of

**"I think that speaks to the quality of this community. We have so many people doing so many good things."**

— **Dean Fouquette**, Pendleton man of the year, on the city's long history of supporting its youth.

supporting its youth. "I think that speaks to the quality of this community," he said. "We have so many people doing so many good things."

Besides man and woman of the year, the chamber handed out five other awards to Pendleton individuals and businesses.

• After 70 years of making it, Hill Meat Co. is finally bringing home the bacon.

Hill Meat claimed the business of the year award, which was due in part to the company's numerous community sponsorships, including the Round-Up, Relay for Life and Special Olympics.

Hill Meat also recently expanded and added 20 workers, meaning it now employs more than 90 people.

Hill Meat owner Jim Cheney said that the company went from a regional meat supplier when he started in 1992 to now stocking meat in markets across the western United States.

• The President's Award was bestowed on the notably giddy members of Altrusa International of Pendleton, who could be heard cheering in the hallway as they left the event room.

Chamber immediate past president Arne Swanson said Altrusa was the difference between Pendleton "surviving and thriving."

• Mark Mulvihill's two-year reign as boss of the year is over.

The InterMountain Education Service District superintendent won the award in 2014, but since no one was nominated in 2015, Mulvihill hung onto the title

until Kathie Nooy of U.S. Bank took home this year's prize.

U.S. Bank's Pendleton branch manager, Nooy's employees highlighted her inclusiveness and motivational skills, her sympathy when employees experience familial issues and the Christmas breakfast she personally organizes for workers each year.

• Nothing helps a dental professional better than a nice smile.

As the office manager and receptionist at Main Street Dental Care, bosses and clients alike said Lori Sutphin's positivity and enthusiasm made her worthy of employee of the year.

"I love the people I work with and the people I work for — the patients," she said.

• Although he doesn't serve customers or clients, Dr. John McBee's dedication to his patients secured him the customer service of the year award.

Since he starting practicing surgery in 1994, McBee has been known to strap on ice cleats to meet with patients when conditions weren't safe enough to drive and open his practice up to high school students interested in job shadowing.

• For its role in enriching the "Pendleton experience," the Pendleton Center for the Arts was awarded the excellence in tourism award.

Harriet Isom, a member of the art center's council, said the award was dedicated to executive director Roberta Lavador, who was in Portland on Oregon Arts Commission business.

Contact Antonio Sierra at [asierra@eastoregonian.com](mailto:asierra@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0836.

## WILDLIFE: 6,748 roadkill reports in 2015

Continued from 1A

By using dogs to increase the success rate of cougar hunts, he said it could help increase ungulate populations.

"I think it would be a good idea," Beckett said.

Hansell said cougars may also pose a public safety threat when they get pushed out of their usual territory and closer to communities.

"They just don't interface well with human populations, and can be dangerous," Hansell said.

Another of Hansell and Barreto's proposals, Senate Bill 372, directs the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to create a permit system for salvaging roadkill deer and elk. Similar laws are already on the books in nearly 20 states, including Washington, Idaho and Montana.

"You always see carcasses laying across the side of the road, left to decay," Hansell said. "I thought this might be a productive use of an unfortunate situation."

The Oregon Department of Transportation logged 6,748 roadkill reports in 2015, of which 1,539 came out of Eastern Oregon. The vast majority of animals hit

were deer, amounting to 5,832. The total number of elk hit and killed was 229.

ODOT currently handles the carcasses in a number of different ways, such as natural disposal, incineration, composting or, in rare cases, burying. SB 372, on the other hand, would issue permits allowing people to recover the meat. Antlers would be submitted to ODFW.

"Other states have done this, and done it successfully," Hansell said.

Finally, Hansell and Barreto are both signed on to Senate Bill 373, which would give cities the ability to petition ODFW to control urban deer populations within city limits.

"It's a pretty basic bill," Barreto said. "All it does is give local control to take care of this problem."

Michelle Dennehy, ODFW spokeswoman, said urban deer are definitely a problem in some places across the state. As deer become habituated to humans, Dennehy said they may begin to act more aggressively. Too many deer in cities can also mean more collisions with vehicles, she said.

Hansell said the idea for

SB 372 started with Dennis Sands, the mayor of Joseph. But after a backlash from concerned residents, Sands told the Willowa County Chieftain in December that the bill had "less than a zero (percent) chance of passing the legislature."

Still, Hansell said they are moving forward with the proposal. He said the bill has received positive feedback from both ODFW and the League of Oregon Cities.

"(Deer) should be out in the woods, not living in cities," Hansell said.

Hansell said cities could pass an ordinance under the bill declaring urban deer are causing a public nuisance, and petitioning ODFW to euthanize the animals humanely. The meat would be distributed to the Oregon Food Bank, and cities would collect the antlers and hides.

"It is not an open season," Hansell said. "Hunters are not going to be marching down the streets."

All three bills are sitting in the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources for review.

Contact George Plaven at [gplaven@eastoregonian.com](mailto:gplaven@eastoregonian.com) or 541-966-0825.

## REACTION: 'I think everybody just needs to settle down and see what he does'

Continued from 1A

Moore's first choice from the Republican field of candidates, he said the man is now his president and it will do the country good to accept that. Those who are unwilling to work with the new administration are just as much of the problem, he said.

He also said he was pleased with the president's Cabinet picks and is looking forward to seeing what the Republican-led Congress and White House will do in the next four years to lead the country in a new direction.

Chuck Beckett, chapter president for the Oregon Hunters Association, said he wasn't sure how President Trump would impact hunters moving forward. Speaking personally, Beckett said he felt people were overreacting to Trump's rise to the Oval Office.

"I think everybody just needs to settle down and see what he does," Beckett said. "We just have to back him, unless he turns out to be a Nixon, and then we can get rid of him."

Jose Garcia, the Hermiston Hispanic Advisory Committee's new chair, said he was inspired by the inauguration ceremony.

"I watched Trump's speech, and I was moved," he said. "My wife, she's a Democrat, and she rolled her eyes, but I said 'Look, he moved me.'"

Garcia has worked in addiction recovery programs for more than 20 years, and watches drugs and gangs destroy peoples' lives every day. Often it makes him feel powerless, he said. If someone doesn't have \$10,000 on hand, for example, it usually takes about four months to get them into a rehabilitation facility.

"I lost my brother to addiction," Garcia said. "He

was young. Thirty-four. I was powerless. I wanted to send him to rehab and I couldn't get him in."

Trump's talk of putting America first and taking care of the people in our own backyard has resonated with Garcia over the past year. The president specifically mentioned ending "the crime and the gangs and the drugs that have stolen too many lives and robbed our country of so much unrealized potential" in his inaugural speech, and said power was being handed back to the American people when he took the oath of office.

Garcia said he was so excited that he sent Trump a message via Twitter telling him he wanted to be his addiction advisor.

Mark Peterson of Pendleton, a member of the Democratic Party of Umatilla County, said he is trying to keep an open mind.

"No one likes to lose, whether it is in athletics or politics," he said. "I'm taking a wait-and-see attitude. I'll give Trump a chance and hope he succeeds. Because — regardless of your opinion of him — if he succeeds our nation succeeds."

He said the new president could help bring the country together, but perhaps not in the way Trump imagines.

"He's getting people involved in the political process again," Peterson said. "It's all our country, you know."

Writer Shaindel Beers teaches for the English Department of Blue Mountain Community College. She said she did not watch the inaugural address.

"As a survivor of various types of violence and advocate of women's rights, Donald Trump is very triggering to me and many women. I will

be making protest signs tonight and marching tomorrow [Saturday]. If Donald Trump is triggering to you, I hear you, and I believe you. You are not alone."

Anne Emmons, president of the League of Women Voters West Umatilla, said she was trying to focus on the league's goals of equality and education.

"We need to have respect for the office of the president," she said. "We may not agree with the policies, but we have to work to hear all sides."

The League is a non-partisan group, and usually does not support one position.

This year, Emmons said the League's national chapter would be protesting at the Women's March in Washington, D.C., and that some local members planned to participate in marches in Pendleton, Portland and other local events.

"They're marching for rights for all," Emmons said.

Emmons said that watching the inauguration, she had some personal concerns about Trump's presidency, but was hopeful citizens would continue to encourage diversity and support equal rights.

"I went to the MLK march on Monday," Emmons said. "Mayor Drotzmann said that America is a melting pot. I think we've forgotten that."

She said the league would continue to do outreach and help people exercise their rights.

Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston said he found inspiration in the peaceful transfer of power from one administration to the next.

"Not having tanks in the road, things along those lines," he said. "It's pretty awesome to think about."

Paid Advertisement

**Rogers Toyota of Hermiston**  
1550 N. First Street, Hermiston, OR 97838

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Residents of Hermiston and Surrounding Area:

2017 is upon us and we would like to extend a thank you to all the customers that have chose to do business with Rogers Toyota of Hermiston and helped us reach a record breaking sales goal in 2016. Due to the success of 2016, Toyota has provided us with an additional allotment of New Toyotas. We currently have over 130 new Toyotas in stock. We thought the best thing we could do is offer our customers all of our in stock inventory at **EMPLOYEE PRICING + \$1.00**. This is the biggest and best savings that we can offer - couple that with great incentives from Toyota, and great interest rates from our local credit unions and banks, and you will truly see there has never been a better time to buy.

**EVERY NEW AND PRE-OWNED VEHICLE IN INVENTORY WILL BE PRICED AT WHAT EMPLOYEES PAY + \$1.00**

Furthermore, with the success of 2016 we have obtained a great selection of quality local trade-ins. Currently we have over 80 pre-owned vehicles in stock. We have cars, trucks and SUV's of every manufacturer; not just Toyotas. These quality local trade-ins will be priced at **EMPLOYEE PRICING + \$1.00** as well. Vehicles starting as low as \$5,999.\*\*\*

- No Payments until up to 90 Days\*
- Top Dollar for Trades
- Appraiser On-Site
- Extended Special Financing and Terms for this Event with Top Banks
- 0% Financing on 10 New Models\*
- Rebates up to \$3,000\*\*
- New 2017 Camry LE: \$199/mo • \$0 Down!\*
- College Grads get an additional \$750 Rebate on Select Models\*\*\*

\*Not valid with any other offers. In-stock vehicles only. No Payments until February 2017 for Tier 1-3 New Toyota buyers up to 60 months. On approved credit through Toyota Financial Services.  
\*\*\$1k-\$17025. Sale Price \$21,588. Rebate \$1,500. \$0 Cash down. Residual \$13,779. 36 months \$199.19 mo. 12,000 miles a year. Does not include tax, title or \$75 doc fee.  
\*\*\*\$3,000 rebate based on in-stock Toyota Avalon Models.  
\*\*\*\*2007 Honda Civic. \$1k# 17th132c.  
\*\*\*\*\*College Graduate Finance Program is valid on the lease or finance (including preferred option) of select new untitled Toyota models or on Toyota Certified Used Vehicles. College Graduate Rebate is only available on new untitled Toyota Camry GAS (excl. Hybrid), Corolla, Prius c, RAV4 (Gas only), Tacoma and Yaris vehicles. (TCUVs are not eligible for the Rebate Program). The College Graduate Rebate Program and College Graduate Finance Program are available upon credit approval from and execution of a finance or lease contract through a participating Toyota dealer and Toyota Financial Services (TFS). Not all applicants will qualify. See store for details.

For questions or more information go to [toyotaofhermiston.com](http://toyotaofhermiston.com) or call 541-567-6461