



Photo contributed by Angela Scheider

Hermiston/Pendleton Special Olympics athletes and coaches competed in the Special Olympics Regional Competition March 19 in Tualatin.

Local Special Olympian receives state award

Multi-sport Special Olympics athlete **Andrea Eiden** received the Pride In Performance Award for Outstanding Athlete.

The Hermiston/Pendleton Local Program athlete was presented the award during the March 19 **Special Olympics Regional Competition** held in Tualatin. **Adam Kau**, director of program and coach services for Special Olympics Oregon, said Eiden has participated in the program for 15 years.

"She has overcome a lot of difficulties in life and still has a positive outlook," Kau said in presenting the award. "She's amazing."

Eiden started with the skiing program and now participates in basketball, track & field and bowling with the Hermiston/Pendleton program. After getting the award, Eiden helped lead The H/P Shockers, a 5 vs 5 basketball team, to a gold medal in Division E. The team is coached by head basketball coach **Mark Smalley** and assistant coaches **Kris Neustel** and **Cindy Middleton**.

Kristi Smalley, local communications manager, said watching Eiden receive the award was the highlight of the event. In all, Smalley said 33 athletes and 15 coaches participated in the regional competition.

The Individual Skills Competition resulted in a gold medal for **Lyall Arey** and silver medal for **Misty Larsen**. First time skills athlete **Jolynn Smutz** placed fourth. The 3 vs 3 competition added to the medal count. In Division C, the H/P Currents took gold, the H/P Lightning earned bronze and the H/P Volts rounded out the division with a fourth place finish and the Sportsmanship Award. Competing in Division B, the H/P Thunder earned the bronze medal and Sportsmanship Award.

Angela Scheider, local program coordinator, said the medals are wonderful, but she is most proud of the sportsmanship that is displayed by the Hermiston/Pendleton athletes. Their attitudes didn't go unnoticed. Kau said the H/P athletes were extremely polite, well-behaved and it was quite apparent they were having a blast.

Special Olympics provides year-around athletic training and sports competitions for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. To participate, athletes must be age 6 or older. There is no charge for athletes to participate.

Spring and summer training for golf, bocce and athletics (track and field) are starting up. Athletes interested in participating can call Scheider at 541-314-0166.



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Andrea Eiden, a multi-sport Special Olympics athlete, received the Pride In Performance Award for Outstanding Athlete during a ceremony at the Special Olympics Regional Competition in Tualatin.

HHS junior selected for LEDA scholar program

Heidy Mejia-Puerta, a Hermiston High School junior, was accepted into the **Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America Scholars Program**.

Following her junior year, Mejia-Puerta will travel to New Jersey to participate in leadership training, academic writing instruction, standardized test preparation, college guidance and community building activities at **Princeton University**. The seven-week program is designed to help high-achieving, low-income students go to the most selective colleges.



Mejia-Puerta

Melody Bustillos, Generation College advisor and high school counselor, said the program is life-changing.

"Colleges know that a student who is part of LEDA is prepared to be successful not just academically, but comes with a network of support from LEDA throughout their college experience," she said.

Mejia-Puerta is the sixth Hermiston High School student selected to be part of the prestigious scholars program. Two previous participants have already graduated from college — Princeton and Wesleyan — and one will graduate next month from University of Southern California. Two are still attending college — at Swarthmore College and Stanford University.

To learn more about the LEDA Program or make a donation, visit ledascholars.org.

Education foundation awards spring grants

A total of \$10,509 was disbursed by the Education Foundation of Pendleton to Pendleton School District teachers to provide additional educational opportunities for students.

Karen Kullnat, foundation president, said money is raised through Grillin' for Grants, the foundation's fundraising dinner.

The grants and their purpose were distributed for the following (note: some of the grant awards were combined with money awarded in the fall):

PENDLETON HIGH SCHOOL: **Justin Adams**, business and marketing teacher and Future Business Leaders of America advisor, \$1,000 to take 35 students to the **State Leadership Conference** in Portland; **Schelle Bixler**, biology teacher, \$1,000 for 75 students to travel to the Oregon coast to learn about the ecological relationships between the plant life and animals; **Sonia Cooley**, Education Credit Management Corporation teacher, \$1,100 for 21 students to visit campuses at Central Oregon Community College, OSU Cascades (Bend), University of Oregon, Linn-Benton Community College and Concordia University; **Michael Dinkel**, robotics teacher, \$620 for students to participate in robotics league tournament at South Meadows Middle School in Hillsboro; **Kristin Swaggart**, culinary arts teacher, \$1,000, to 15 foods students who participate in FCCLA to attend the **State Leadership Conference**; **Kathryn Youngman**, foreign language teacher, \$600

for 25 students from Spanish and French classes to attend the **University of Oregon Foreign Language and International Studies Day**.

HAWTHORNE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL: For 25 students, \$1,547, to participate in an art project with artist-in-residence **Jan Peterson-Terjeson**; 10 graduating students, \$800, for a one-day field trip to **Silverwood Theme Park** near Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, which includes an event that tests the principles of physics and science using rides and games.

SUNRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL: **Emily Callender**, strings teacher, \$1,200 arranged for **Lisa Ornstein**, a professional fiddle player, to conduct classroom workshops for 200 middle school and elementary strings students; all sixth graders, \$278, to participate in a field trip to **Pendleton Center for the Arts** to view the **Chuck Close** exhibit and participate in a guided discussion; 12 students, \$1,000, will attend the **Oregon Writing Festival** at Portland State University;

SHERWOOD HEIGHTS: **Cheryl Carlson**, music teacher, \$364 for 210 fourth and fifth grade students to attend the **District VI Children's Choir Festival** at Eastern Oregon University.

The foundation is a nonprofit entity, separate from the school district. For more information, contact Michele Madril at 541-966-3115, michele.madril@imesd.k12.or.us or visit www.educationfoundationof-pendleton.org.



Photo contributed by Noemi Wiseman

McKay Creek Estates staff and residents recently participated in a fundraiser for the **Pendleton Warming Station**. Pictured are: sitting, **Nettie Jones**, **Louisa Krosting**, **Jean Thomson**. Middle: **Bill Jones**, **Judge Richard Courson**, **Barbara Davis**, **Rev. Chris Clemons** of the Warming Station, **Jack Kimball**, **Kath Reger**, **Linnea Jones**. Back: **Joan Glidewell**, **Diane Fitzpatrick**.

McKay Creek residents warm up giving

With an April theme of **The Art of Giving**, residents at **McKay Creek Estates** gave back in a warm way.

They donated \$500 to **Neighbor-to-Neighbor**,

the **Pendleton Warming Station**. Residents and staff at the assisted living facility held an indoor yard sale to raise money for the cause.

They presented the check to **Rev. Chris Clemons** of the

Warming Station.

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

Teenager turns most pages in Pendleton

A 13-year-old **Pendleton Public Library** patron read the most pages at the local library during a competition against other libraries.

Laura Ogle read a total of 21,638 pages, beating out other Pendleton competitors, which included adults. However, the teen's effort wasn't enough to help Pendleton unseat Harney County/Lake County in the annual **Million Page Challenge**. After a six-week battle, Pendleton Public Library placed second.

Each February, Pendleton competes against Harney County, Lake County and Hood River Library in an effort to see whose library patrons can read the most pages. This year, Pendleton bookworms read 556,555 pages, losing to Harney/Lake Counties, who totaled 851,861. Hood River's total page count was 268,012.

To provide incentives, the library opted to award its top



Photo contributed by Jennifer Costley

Laura Ogle, 13, was the top reader from the **Pendleton Public Library** during the **Million Page Challenge**. Her mother, **Ginger Ogle**, also won a small prize for making the top 10 of local readers in the annual contest between Harney County, Lake County and the Hood River Library.

10 readers with gift cards and certificates.

For more about library

programs, call 541-966-0380 or visit www.pendletonlibrary.weebly.com.

BIRTHS

St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton

APRIL 5, 2017

OLIVERA — Lindsay M. Dalglish and Micah Olivera of Pendleton: a boy, Sage Montgomery Olivera.

APRIL 6, 2017

BARKER — Katelyn M. Barker of Hermiston: a boy, Eli Augustus Barker.

APRIL 10, 2017

EDDY — Wendy Hancock and Justin Eddy of Ukiah: a girl, Adelyn Grace Eddy.

Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston

APRIL 2, 2017

KONECNY — Megan E. Konecny and Otto W. Konecny of Hermiston: a girl, Lily Olivia Konecny.

APRIL 7, 2017

HUGHES — Eileen Perez and Anthony Hughes of Hermiston: a girl, Melania Emma Italia Hughes.

APRIL 8, 2017

ALVARADO — Briseida Sanchez and Juan A. Alvarado of Hermiston: a boy, Zael Antonio Alvarado.

APRIL 11, 2017

GARCIA — Victoria Erevia-Garcia and Carlos Reyes Garcia of Hermiston: a boy, Dionicio Richard Garcia.

Pet of the Week

PATRICK

If you're looking for a lap dog that is sweet and cute, come adopt Patrick from PAWS! Patrick is a small and quiet Chihuahua that needs a good home. Patrick gets along with some other dogs and has never lived with cats. He likes to ride in a car and is a social butterfly. Patrick has some allergy issues and needs to be in a home without carpeting or smoking. He is neutered, up to date on shots and comes with his rabies tag. If Patrick sounds like the kind of dog you've been looking for come to PAWS at 517 SE 3rd St in Pendleton Tues-Sat from 12-4pm. For more information call 541-276-0181.

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

Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

198 Pets Adopted in 2017!

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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.