

# Pendleton Round-Up, Happy Canyon courts visit Capitol



East Oregonian

the Governor's Conference Room, where they were visited by Gov. Kate Brown for congratulations and photos.

In what has become an annual tradition, the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon courts paid a visit Thursday to the Oregon State Capitol in Salem, hosted by local Sen. Bill Hansell (R-Athena), Rep. Greg Barreto (R-Cove) and Rep. Jodi Hack (R-Salem), a Pendleton native.

This year's Round-Up Court includes Queen Kendra Torrey and princesses Sydney Jones, Taylor Ann Skramstad, Kaleigh Waggoner and Betsy West. The Happy Canyon Court, meanwhile, is represented by princesses Virginia Conner and Gabriella Lewis.

Together, the women posted the colors on the Senate floor followed by an invocation given by Queen Torrey. They then headed over to the House floor where they received courtesies from Barreto.

"I am glad to have been able to host these women at the Capitol again this year, and continue to be impressed by their hard work, character and charisma," Barreto said.

Hansell, Barreto and Hack later hosted a luncheon for the courts at

"It is a privilege and honor to host the Round-Up and Happy Canyon courts in the State Capitol," Hansell said. "They are an outstanding group of accomplished young women."

Hack, who represents Salem, is a Pendleton High School graduate and former rodeo competitor who helped to establish the barrel racing competition at the Pendleton Round-Up.

"As a Pendleton High School graduate and Round-Up supporter, it means a great deal to me to see so many young women working toward their goals and making a difference in the community," Hack said.

For nearly two decades, the Round-Up and Happy Canyon courts have aligned their annual visit to the Capitol with the Portland Rose Festival, where they participate in the Grand Floral Parade and promote the Round-Up and Happy Canyon events during the second full week of September.

The Round-Up and Happy Canyon courts were recognized Thursday at the Oregon Capitol in Salem. From left to right: Gabriella Lews, Betsy West, Kaleigh Waggoner, Kendra Torrey, Sen. Bill Hansell, Sydney Jones, Taylor Ann Skramstad and Virginia Conner.

## Man earns \$5,000 reward for info in cow killing case

By GEORGE PLAIVEN  
East Oregonian

In all his years ranching, Terry Anderson had never received a phone call like the one he got Jan. 15, 2016.

Anderson, who runs Anderson Land & Livestock with his wife, Debby, was tipped off by one of their employees that something was seriously wrong at the winter pasture along Feedville Road near Stanfield. Not only had one of the cows been killed, but body parts were strewn all over the scene.

"The kid was just in complete shock," Anderson remembers. "It's more than emotional. Those cattle are family to us."

What happened was two men — Anthony Haigh of Stanfield and T.J. Kestler of Hermiston — sneaked onto the property the previous night, shot the heifer dead and attempted to butcher the animal right there in the field. Though the cow was skinned out completely, Anderson said most of the meat was left to waste. He suspects the rest of the herd may have spooked Haigh and Kestler to flee before they could finish.

There were 160 cow-calf pairs in the pasture, which were part of a synchronized breeding program, Anderson said. His ranch, which is based outside of Pilot Rock, is a "seedstock" operation, meaning they breed and sell bulls for other producers to build their herds.

Based on the evidence, Anderson said it was clear to him that Haigh and Kestler knew exactly what they were doing.

"I don't think I'll ever get over it," Anderson said, shaking his head. "I just can't imagine someone going out there and doing that."

Haigh and Kestler, then



Staff photo by George Plavien

From left, Erin Jenner, Grant Woods, Terry Anderson and Debby Anderson gathered Friday morning where Terry Anderson presented Woods with a check for \$5,000.

21 and 20 years old, were arrested just four days later. They each pleaded guilty to first-degree theft earlier this year. Haigh was sentenced to six months in prison, while Kestler received 24 months probation and 100 hours of community service. Both men were also ordered to pay \$3,000 in restitution.

The convictions might not have come without the help of another Hermiston man who decided to alert the authorities.

Grant Woods, 21, was in the room when Haigh and Kestler arrived to visit a mutual friend the same night they killed the cow. The two spoke freely about the crime as they cleaned their gun, according to Woods. The motive was apparently to sell the meat for beer money.

After talking on the phone with his fiancé, Woods decided to call the police.

"It was just completely wrong," Woods said. "This was about doing the right thing."

Though Woods did not know at the time, both

Anderson and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association were offering reward money for information leading to a conviction in the case. On Friday, Anderson finally met Woods face-to-face for the first time and presented him with a check for \$5,000.

Another \$1,000 was provided by the cattlemen's association. Jerome Rosa, OCA executive director, said it is the first time in his three years on the job that they have actually paid the reward for cattle theft.

"OCA is more than willing to be a deterrent out there," Rosa said.

Anderson said he and his wife appreciate what Woods did for them, and hope the incident will encourage more people to look out for each other in the community.

"Our society has created a mindset that if this type of activity doesn't affect you directly, there is no need to get involved," Anderson said. "Thankfully, there are individuals that are still guided by doing the right thing."

## HERMISTON

### Wanted: EOTEC general manager to 'build from the ground up'

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

The hunt for a general manager for the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center is officially on after the EOTEC board approved a job advertisement Friday.

"Have you ever wanted to build something from the ground-up?" the advertisement asks. "Have you ever wanted to lead an organization through its formative years?"

The manager will run the EOTEC facility, market it and supervise an administrative assistant and maintenance position. Applicants are asked to have a bachelor's degree in marketing or business administration and five years of experience in tourism or facility management, or "a satisfactory combination of education and experience."

The board plans to run the advertisement for two weeks before interviewing applicants.

Ed Brookshier, who served as Hermiston's city manager for 25 years before retirement, said one thing he

learned was "just because you have a field of candidates doesn't mean you have to fill."

"My only caution would be that we not settle," he said.

On Friday the board also met with the EOTEC budget committee to review the 2017-2018 budget, which they plan to approve on June 21 at 7 a.m. at EOTEC.

The budget includes an increase in the contribution from the city of Hermiston and Umatilla County for operations, up from \$45,000 apiece this year to \$75,000 each. The money will help pay for the three personnel, including \$70,000 to \$85,000 a year for the general manager.

According to the budget document, event revenue for 2016-2017 has been about \$13,000 higher than projected. The anticipated event revenue for 2017-2018 is \$132,000 and the anticipated tourism promotion assessment revenue for marketing is \$115,000. There is still \$1.2 million in the construction fund.

The bulk of construction

on EOTEC is expected to be finished by July 15, but board members and contractors acknowledged Friday there will still be many small items such as painting and setting up pens and panels that will still be needed. Volunteers are planning a large work day on July 29, with smaller groups on July 15 and July 22.

The board discussed having a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the facility and tentatively settled on the Saturday before the Umatilla County Fair. They also discussed progress on construction and discussed what signs, barriers or other measures can be put in place to address a problem with partygoers at the event center wandering through the construction zones.

Umatilla County emergency manager Tom Roberts suggested that the board consider marketing EOTEC as a place where people can park RVs ahead of the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21. Since camping opportunities in the path of totality farther south are full, Roberts said.

### Council to consider budget approval

East Oregonian

The Hermiston City Council will consider approval of the 2017-2018 budget during its Monday meeting.

The \$57.3 million budget includes projects such as completion of the new senior center, installation of new remote-read water meters, a new trail along Highland Avenue, new equipment at the recycled water treatment plant, renovation of the basement of the Carnegie Library and

a 2.5 percent cost of living raise for all city staff.

The full budget can be found online at [hermiston.or.us/finance/budget](http://hermiston.or.us/finance/budget) and is also available for viewing at city hall.

The council will also consider a bid from National Meter and Automation, Inc. to remove the city's current water meters from homes and install "smart" meters that can be read remotely and give individual customers detailed reports of daily water usage.

Prior to the regular

council meeting at 7 p.m. the council will participate in a work session at 6 p.m. to hear the annual report from Umatilla County Fire District 1.

After the council meeting is adjourned the council will reconvene as the Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency to consider approval of the agency's budget. Almost \$1 million of the agency's \$1.6 million budget will go toward building a festival street along Northeast Second Street in front of city hall.

2017

## Music In The Parks

Free Outdoor Music Festival

Concerts Begin at 7pm  
At the Boardman and Irrigon Marina Parks  
Bring the whole family for an evening of Music on the banks of the scenic Columbia River!

• Boardman	JUNE 12	Bahuru Marimba Band
• Irrigon	JUNE 19	Brady Goss
• Boardman	JUNE 26	Zac Grooms
• Irrigon	JULY 3	98% Angels
• Boardman	JULY 10	Jamie Nasario & Luke Basile
• Irrigon	JULY 17	Melissa Cunningham
• Boardman	JULY 24	Dallin Puzey
• Irrigon	JULY 31	Buttercreek Boys
• Boardman	AUG. 7	Blue Mt. Spanish Sound
• Irrigon	AUG. 14	Cruise Control

Funded by Morrow County Unified Recreation District and Portland General Electric  
Sponsored by North Morrow Community Foundation  
For Information call: Tami @ 541-571-0844 (Boardman) or Donna @ 541-922-3197 (Irrigon)

## ATTENTION

### World War II Veterans & Families

Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon invites WWII Vets to travel at no cost to visit their National World War II Memorial in Washington D.C.

Veterans who served in the Military between Dec. 7, 1941 and Dec. 31, 1946, have not visited the WWII Memorial, and live in Oregon east of the Cascade Mountains are eligible to travel.

The flight will be Sept. 6-10, 2017. We take able Veterans and those who need and use mobility assistance. Medical personnel travel with the group the entire trip. Each veteran is accompanied by a guardian, and we encourage a family member to be the guardian. The guardian cost for the trip is \$1,250.00 which includes airfare, lodging, meals and transportation within D.C.

Veteran and Guardian applications forms can be downloaded at  
<http://honorflightofeasternoregon.org/>  
Contact Yvonne Drury: 541.390.4231,  
email: [ydrury47@gmail.com](mailto:ydrury47@gmail.com) Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon is a nonprofit 501(c)3