

HERMISTON

'Fun at Fair' camp keeps kids busy

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

While a day at the fair can be a "choose-your-own-adventure," a group of children have spent the week packing in all the activities they can.

The "Fun at Fair" camp, open to children ages five through 11, has been going on for five years.

"It started out as just for vendors, so when they were working here they had a place for their kids," said Tammy Wagner, the camp's founder and director. "And then we opened it up to the community."

Wagner oversees 40 children and about five counselors in their teens. This year, some of the camp helpers are former campers who have aged out, but still wanted to participate.

The camp costs \$65 for the week and includes a T-shirt, wristband to go on carnival rides and a pass to the fair for the whole week.

The money, Wagner said, goes back to the fair's general fund.

While Wagner comes up with a schedule based on the fair's activities, she keeps it fairly flexible to account for the interests of different groups.

"One year I planned a lot of art activities, and I didn't



Umatilla County Fair day campers visit the Bill Jennings, and Bob Daniel, at the American Legion booth on Tuesday at the Umatilla County Fair.

Staff photo by E.J. Harris

get artsy kids," she said. "So I plan stuff, and then see what the kids want to do."

During the week, Wagner takes the kids on trips to the animal barns, to different shows, and to explore the exhibits located inside the main building.

After lunch on Thursday, some kids relaxed, and others ran to greet someone dressed as a wyvern, a two-legged dragon, that was roaming the grounds that day.

Others played "Simon

Says" with the counselors and some did art projects.

Most of the kids said their favorite activities involved spending time with the other campers.

"Freeze-dance," said Colby, a 12-year-old who has come to the camp for several years. "That's my favorite."

Several kids agreed, as Wagner turned on the music, and they all started dancing. As she turned it off, they all had to "freeze" in whatever position they were in, until

the music started again.

The kids said they also enjoyed trying out some of the fair activities, such as the "crazy contests" act, where they could compete to win prizes.

And some said they enjoyed just getting to be at the fair with other kids.

"I meet lots of people," said Chris, a 10-year-old. "It's fun."

The camp is from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday of the fair.

PENDLETON

Watering cutback could end Saturday

East Oregonian

Pendleton residents cutting back on outdoor watering is helping the city meet demand while two large wells are out of commission.

Pendleton public works director Bob Patterson reported the voluntary conservation efforts are keeping the water supply at an adequate 5.5 million gallons per day.

"Pendleton water customers' efforts have been greatly appreciated," Patterson stated.

The well at Roy Raley Park went down last week, then the Stillman Park well stopped working Monday. Patterson reported work began Wednesday on the pump at Stillman, where the installer found exterior weld splits in the column pipe.

"Of the 18 lengths normally under water and inspected further, 14 are being changed out to address this concern," Patterson reported.

The pipe is 12 inches in diameter and each section

is 10 feet long. A Tri-Cities supplier is delivering six lengths of pipe, he said, and another eight are coming from Portland.

"With this issue, our contractor has been set back about half a day," according to Patterson. "Installation of all pumping equipment is expected to still occur on Friday, just later in the day."

After installation, city staff will disinfect, flush and take a water quality sample. Based on the results after the 24-hour testing period, staff expect to put the well back into service late Saturday and lift the voluntary watering curtailment.

Work on the Roy Raley well remains on the schedule for Monday.

"Assessment and determinations for action will be made upon the pumping equipment removal and inspection," Patterson stated. "City is replacing the existing pump with a new pump as part of the repairs. No immediate time frame has yet been established for having this well back on-line."

PENDLETON

Murray Building back in McClintock hands

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

The John Murray Building in Pendleton sold for \$100,000 at auction Thursday. And Gale and Pat McClintock of Pendleton did not even have pull out the checkbook to get back the building they sued for.

The auction took place at 10 a.m. in the lobby of the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, Pendleton. Sterrin Holcomb, lieutenant of the sheriff's civil division, said six to eight people showed up for the event, but the McClintocks gave the only bid.

The couple cut a deal in 2008 to sell the former Pendleton High School building, 200 S.E. Hailey Ave., and a nearby lot at 626 S.E. Second St. to real estate broker Kalvin Garton and his wife Silva for \$950,000 plus 7 percent interest. The McClintocks sued the Gartons in February 2016, claiming in the complaint the Gartons stopped making monthly payments of at least \$6,325 in November 2015. The McClintocks sought \$857,129 plus the interest, attorney fees and court costs, and asked the court to foreclose on the properties



EO file photo

The John Murray Building, built in 1912 and formerly Pendleton High School and a middle school, sold for \$100,000 at auction Thursday.

and have the sheriff sell them at auction. The McClintocks prevailed, and the court awarded them a judgment of \$1,026,232.

Holcomb said that judgment worked as credit for the McClintocks to use to bid. The \$100,000 came in well under the total credit, so they did not have to pay any cash out of pocket.

Holcomb said the event lasted no

more than a few minutes, and she did not see the Gartons in the gathering.

Umatilla County tax records show the lot at 626 S.E. Second St. has a real market value of \$23,510 while the John Murray site has a real market value of \$437,500.

Contact Phil Wright at pwright@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0833.

BRIEFLY

Prairie City announces eclipse marketplace

PRAIRIE CITY — Food, craft, businesses and activity vendors are still being sought in Grant County.

The Prairie City Community Marketplace Eclipse Event is hoping to offer space for people to sell their wares. In addition, the town is looking to provide opportunities for visitors to buy food, drinks, craft items and play games while in the area for the total solar eclipse.

The event runs Thursday, Aug. 17 through Monday, Aug. 21 at the Prairie City Community Center, 211 S. McHaley Ave. Vendors do not have to participate each day. The cost is \$65 per day or \$300 for all five days. In addition, electricity is available for \$10 daily or \$65 for five days.

Also, some camping space is still available. For details, contact 541-620-1028, medsolor2017@gmail.com or 541-316-0655.

For more information about the vendor space, contact Tammy Leach at 580-504-4435, tammyleach80@yahoo.com or search Facebook.

Heppner hosts all '80s reunion

HEPPNER — A reunion for all Heppner High School graduates from the 1980s is planned.

The All '80s Heppner Class Reunion is Saturday, Aug. 19 at 5 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Lodge, 142 N. Main St. A no-host taco

bar will be available. In addition, those attending are encouraged to bring photos and stories to share with others.

Those who are interested in staying over the weekend are encouraged to make arrangements for accommodations as soon as possible, as it's the weekend of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo and the full solar eclipse is the following Monday.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP by calling Missy Cutsforth at 541-989-8104 or find the event on Facebook.

New Transit rocks Wednesdays in the Park

PENDLETON — The final performance of the Wednesdays in the Park features Boise-based band New Transit.

The free event is Wednesday, Aug. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Food, beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Founded in 2009, the original "Northwest Rock" group plays original alternative country rock music — citing such influences as The Beatles, The Band, Wilco, the Grateful Dead, Gram Parsons, Brian Wilson and the Rolling Stones. The group has a pair of independent releases, "One" in 2011 and "Country Music Dead" in 2013. They recently completed their third studio album, the

self-titled "New Transit."

The five-week concert series is presented by Pendleton Parks & Recreation and Sounds Like Entertainment. For more information, call 541-276-8100 or search Facebook for "Wednesdays in the Park."

Contest recognizes librarians

The "I love my librarian" award encourages library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college or university librarians.

Each year, up to 10 librarians are selected. Each librarian receives a \$5,000 cash award, a plaque and a travel stipend to attend the awards ceremony and reception in New York City, hosted by Carnegie Corporation of New York. In 2016 more than 1,100 library patrons submitted detailed stories regarding how their

librarian had an impact on their communities and lives.

To be eligible, a nominee must be a librarian with a master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association in library and information studies or a master's degree with a specialty in school library media from an educational unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. Nominees must be currently working in the United States in a public library, a library at an accredited college or university or at an accredited kindergarten through 12th grade school.

Nominations are accepted through Monday, Sept. 18. For more information, visit www.ilovelibrarians.org/loveliblibrarian. For questions, contact Heather Cho of the American Library Association at 312-280-4020 or hcho@ala.org.

Electric cooperative fills vacancy on board

East Oregonian

Steven Platt of Pilot Rock has been appointed to the Umatilla Electric Cooperative board following the resignation of RoseEtta Ansoctegui on July 15.

Platt will represent District 6, which covers the area east and southeast of Pendleton including the upper Umatilla River, Weston Mountain and Meacham areas, as well as a small portion of northwest Union County. "I'm honored to be chosen for the board and look forward to representing the members of District 6," Platt said in a statement.

A third-generation rancher, Platt has owned

and operated a commercial cattle operation for 30 years with his wife and son. He has also served as chairman of the Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association.

Platt earned his associate's degree of applied science in production agriculture from Blue Mountain Community College, which led to a 30-year career working for the school — including the last 23 years as facilities manager.

Platt previously ran for election against Ansoctegui in April. Ansoctegui was re-elected to the board for a fifth term, but stepped down to take care of family members with health issues. The term runs for three years and will expire in 2020.



Steve Platt

Sheriff's Office locates stolen truck, with help from OnStar

East Oregonian

A truck stolen from Meacham was recovered Thursday 150 miles away in Selah, Washington.

The GMC Sierra was reported stolen Tuesday from the area of Hotel Road in Meacham. The vehicle was stolen from behind a locked gate, behind four no trespassing signs. The gate had been torn open with a cable and the gate and locks had been broken. A firearm was also reported to be in the vehicle.

The Umatilla Country Sheriff's Office contacted OnStar, which was able to locate the vehicle in Selah, Washington, north of Yakima.

Washington State Patrol responded to the location and arrested Daniel Poe, 39, from South Carolina, on charges of possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of a stolen firearm, theft of a firearm and theft of a motor vehicle.

Poe is currently in custody in the Yakima County Jail.



Daniel Poe

SUBMIT COMMUNITY NEWS

Submit information to: community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

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