

HERMISTON

Story of survival inspires others

East Oregonian

Given a 1 percent chance to live after suffering burns over 99 percent of his body, John O'Leary inspires more than 50,000 people a year who hear his story.

As a curious 9-year-old, O'Leary was playing with fire and gasoline, which resulted in a massive explosion in his garage. His epic story of survival was first showcased in his parents' 2006 book, "Overwhelming Odds."

It was a book that first invited O'Leary to embrace his miraculous recovery and share it with the world. The public is invited to hear him speak as Good Shepherd Health Care System hosts Live Inspired Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395.

Members of Good Shepherd's staff heard O'Leary speak at the Healthcare Service Excellence Conference in Long Beach, California, and were amazed at his story of survival.

"What struck me the most about John's experience was how much of an impact each of the healthcare workers made in his life," said Jim Schlenker, GSHCS chief operating officer. "He recounts the story of everyone from the janitor to the physicians and a chance encounter with a hero that would change the rest of his life."

Schlenker and other employees who attended the conference were so inspired that they wanted to invite O'Leary to share his story with all of Good Shepherd's employees and the community.

Devin Goldman, GSHCS quality and customer experience coordinator and service excellence initiative process director, said he, too, was moved. One thing that stuck with Goldman and that he hopes Good Shepherd



Contributed photo

John O'Leary, who at the age of 9 was given a 1 percent chance to live due to severe burns, now inspires others to truly live. The public is invited to hear him speak Aug. 23 at the Hermiston Conference Center.

employees will be compelled to ask is, "What more can I do?"

"What more can we do in our jobs, for our co-workers, our patients, our community, our spouses and our children — it's a mantra I encourage you to ask yourself each day," Goldman said.

Once expected to die, now O'Leary teaches others how to truly live. The family-friendly presentation is free and open to the community.

For more information, call 541-667-3509 or visit www.eventbrite.com/e/live-inspired-tickets-35763566791.

Mid-Week Market brings bluesy musician

UMATILLA — The Mid-Week Market in Umatilla is welcoming a musical guest to this week's event.

People are invited to hear the bluesy and soulful sound of Pamela Thomas-Martin Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. Local vendors will be selling food, crafts, art and more from 4-8 p.m. at Village Square Park, located across from the Umatilla Library on Sixth Street and H Avenue.

Hailing from the Tri-Cities, Thomas-Martin packs venues wherever she performs. Those attending are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and enjoy an evening of live entertainment.

The Mid-Week Market is held each Wednesday during the summer months. For more information, contact Mark Ribich at 253-204-5979, markribich@centurylink.net or search Umatilla Mid-Week Market on Facebook.

Library friends gear up for book sale, seeks members

HERMISTON — The Friends of the Hermiston Public Library is gearing up for its annual book sale.

The group is looking for additional people that would like to help with the sale and other projects to help the library. The support provided by library friends groups is integral in keeping the doors open at local libraries.

People interested in helping the Hermiston library friends are invited to attend the upcoming meeting, which is Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Those in attendance will receive a free one-year membership and a pre-sale invitation to the book sale.

For more information, call library director Mark Rose at 541-567-2882.

BRIEFLY

Harris Junior Academy sets registration

PENDLETON — Students and parents are invited to register, meet teachers and tour the facility at Harris Junior Academy.

The event is Thursday from 2-7 p.m. at 3121 S.W. Hailey Ave., Pendleton. The school offers small class sizes for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The school, said principal Shannon Whidden, offers a quality education focused on the academic, emotional, physical and spiritual growth of each student.

For more information, contact 541-276-0615, s.whidden@harrisjunioracademy.org or visit www.harrisjunioracademy.org.

Writers' series features poets

PENDLETON — A pair of Oregon poets will share the stage during this month's First Draft Writers' Series.

Amy MacLennan and Amy Miller are featured Thursday at 7 p.m. at Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. The readings will be followed by a question and answer session and short open mic time for up to 10 local writers.

MacLennan has been featured on "The Writer's Almanac" with Garrison Keillor and "Verse Daily." Her first full-length collection, "The Body, A Tree," was released from MoonPath Press in April 2016. In addition, her poetry has been included in multiple publications.

Miller won the Cultural Center of Cape Cod National Poetry Competition, judged by Tony Hoagland, and has been a finalist for the Pablo Neruda Prize and 49th Parallel Award. She works as the publications project manager for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and is the poetry editor for the NPR listeners' guide, "Jefferson Journal."

For more information about the monthly series, call 541-278-9201 or visit www.pendletonarts.org.

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16 BABY & ME LEARN & PLAY, 10-10:45 a.m., Hermiston Public Library back entrance, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. Engaging children and getting them excited about music, improving motor skills and sparking creativity while supporting early literacy development. For children ages newborn to 4 years and parent/guardian. (541-567-2882)

STORY TIME, 11:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

STANFIELD SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Stanfield Community Center, 225 W. Roosevelt, Stanfield. Cost is \$3.50 for seniors, \$6 for others. (541-449-1332)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Pendleton

Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101)

HIRING EVENT, 2-7 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Bring a resume, proper documentation and be ready to fill out an application. Many local employers will be in attendance. (Debby Pedro 541-567-6151)

ADULT BEGINNERS' COMPUTERS, 3-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Registration is required. Classes tailored to the needs of the attendees. (541-966-0380)

MID-WEEK MARKET, 4-8 p.m., Village Square Park, across from Umatilla Library, Sixth Street and H Avenue, Umatilla. Special

guest musician Pamela Thomas-Martin will play Aug. 16 from 6-8 p.m. (541-922-3226)

WEDNESDAY IN THE PARK, 6-8 p.m., Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Live entertainment featuring New Transit. Bring a chair or blanket. All ages. (541-276-8100)

HEALTH INSURANCE 101, 6-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Medical Center community classroom 1, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Learn about the health insurance enrollment period, how insurance works, coverage options and questions about insurance in Oregon. Free, but registration is requested at 855-268-3767 or email info.marketplace@oregon.gov. (Elizabeth Cronen 855-268-3767)

KIDS CLUB, 6:30-8 p.m., Hermiston Christian Center, 1825 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. For ages 5-12. Includes open gym, games, prizes, snacks, music,

puppets and more. Transportation available. (Joanna Hayden 541-561-5573)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 ADULT OPEN GYM, 6 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Half-court basketball. Adults only.

"STEPPING OUT OF STUCK: THE SAFER WAY TO OVERCOMING FEARS" SEMINAR, 8-10 a.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Jennifer McClure, international leadership coach, teacher and speaker, will show individuals and businesses how to identify and overcome the fears that keep us from making progress. Cost is \$30 per person, includes workbook. Registration required; email jenspurgeon11@yahoo.com.

PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 10:30 a.m., Milton-Freewater Public Library, 8

S.W. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (Lili Schmidt 541-938-8247)

BOARDMAN SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Cost is \$4 for seniors 55 and over or \$5 for adults. (541-481-3257)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 S.W. 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (541-276-7101)

HERMISTON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12 p.m., Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston. Cost is \$4 for adults, free for children 10 and under, \$4 for Meals on Wheels. Extra 50 cents for utensils/dishes. Bus service to parish hall by donation. (541-567-3582)

SENSORY STORY TIME, 12:30 p.m., Boardman Public Library, 200 S. Main St., Boardman. For children from birth to age 4. (541-481-2665)

HARRIS JR. ACADEMY REGISTRATION, 2-7 p.m., Harris Jr. Academy, 3121 S.W. Hailey Ave., Pendleton. Tour the school, meet the teachers and register students K-8th grades for classes. (Shannon Whidden 541-276-0615)

SKILLS FOR LIFE, 3-5 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Gym activities and life skills for middle and high school students. Registration requested. (Danny Bane 541-379-4250)

KARATE OPEN GYM, 5-6 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center gym, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Lars Hansen will lead this all-ages class. Wear comfortable clothes. No experience necessary. (Casey Brown 541-276-8100)

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON & EVENING

Table with columns for time slots (12 PM, 12:30, 1 PM, 1:30, 2 PM, 2:30, 3 PM, 3:30, 4 PM, 4:30, 5 PM, 5:30, 6 PM, 6:30, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30) and rows for various channels (FOX, CBS, NBC, ABC, PBS, CABLE, PREMIUM) listing programs and their descriptions.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT & THURSDAY MORNING

Table with columns for time slots (12 AM, 12:30, 1 AM, 1:30, 2 AM, 2:30, 3 AM, 3:30, 4 AM, 4:30, 5 AM, 5:30, 6 AM, 6:30, 7 AM, 7:30, 8 AM, 8:30, 9 AM, 9:30, 10 AM, 10:30, 11 AM, 11:30) and rows for various channels (FOX, CBS, NBC, ABC, PBS) listing programs and their descriptions.