

PENDLETON

BRIEFLY



Staff photo by Emily Olson

Round-Up Directors and staff from Hood River Distillers pose with a special shipment of Pendleton Whisky at the Round-Up Grounds on Tuesday.

Never fear, the whisky is here

By EMILY OLSON
East Oregonian

It wasn't an eclipse, but Tuesday brought an event of spectacular proportions to Pendleton. More than 1,000 cases of Pendleton Whisky products were delivered in preparation for September's Round-Up.

Seven staff from Hood River Distillers stopped first at the Pendleton Round-Up Grounds to stock up the Let'er Buck Room. That shipment included 100 cases of its signature whisky, 18 cases of Pendleton Midnight and 40 cases of Pendleton 1910 Rye Whisky.

The whisky was met by the Round-Up directors for a quick photo before a team of 10 volunteers helped unload the shipment by hand, stocking the bar's back room.

The group then headed over to Pendleton's liquor store, where they delivered almost 1,000 additional cases. The local liquor store will also receive cases of Directors' Reserve, Pendleton Midnight and Pendleton 1910 Rye Whisky as well, according to Hood River Distillers.

That's slightly more than last year's load, said store owner Greg Roland.

"You never want to run out of Pendleton in Pendleton. That'd be trouble," he said. "The majority of this will be gone the week of Round-Up."

Pendleton Whisky makes up 20 percent of his annual sales and Round-Up is the most popular time to pick up a bottle,



Staff photo by Emily Olson

A volunteer helps unload a special shipment of Pendleton Whisky into the Let'er Buck Room on Tuesday.

he said. "I do 90 percent of my September business in six days," Roland said.

With help from Hood River Distillers staff, Roland's store builds the largest display of whisky products in the United States — all without a plan. "We just wing it," he said. "We want to use more 400 bottles this year."

The pre-Round-Up shipment has been a tradition since 2010 and requires special permission

from the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, which normally prohibits distillers from directly delivering to stores.

Joe Jermann, who drives the truck for its 150-mile route, said it's a fun gig.

"We get lots of compliments and thumbs up. People always ask for samples," Jermann laughed.

In his five years with Hood River Distillers, Jermann has delivered loads worth \$1.7 million in retail sales, but he

never needs a bodyguard. "You could steal [the truck] if you really wanted to, but where would you hide it?" he said.

The partnership between the whisky brand and rodeo dates back to 2003. It's a symbiotic relationship, with royalties from Pendleton Whisky contributing to arena improvements and the prize purse. The name "Pendleton" has helped the brand become one of the fastest growing whiskey products of all time.

COMING EVENTS

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)

LIVE INSPIRED!, 6-7 p.m., Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Bestselling author and speaker John O'Leary will talk about his life-changing burn accident and how others can truly live an inspired life. Free, but registration requested at www.eventbrite.com/event/live-inspired-tickets-35763566791 (Nick Bejarano 541-667-3460)

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)

VEGAN/SUSTAINABLE LIVING POTLUCK SUPPER, 7 p.m., location varies, location varies, Pendleton. Bring a veggie dish and recipe. Gluten-free friendly group. Call to RSVP and for driving directions. (541-969-3057)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24 MEGA SPORTS CAMP: CONQUER THE DAY, 8-11:30 a.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Kids in grades 1-6 can choose baseball, basketball, soccer or cheerleading and learn new skills and fundamentals in a positive and encouraging environment. Between sports session, coaches lead songs and inspiring sports and Bible stories. (Ricky and Sylvia 541-276-3369)

PRESCHOOL STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 10:30 a.m., Mil-

ton-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)

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)

INFUSIONS: A NIGHT OF ARTFUL PAIRINGS, 5-8 p.m., Arts Portal Gallery, 508 N. Main St., Milton-Freewater. Enjoy pairings of Forgeron Cellars wines and appetizers by Steven Grabinski of Ox & Cart in Walla Wal-

la. Tickets are \$30, available for purchase online at <http://artsportalgalleryevents.brownpaperickets.com>, \$35 at the door or \$50 which includes a bottle of Forgeron Cellars 2014 Chardonnay. (Laura 541-938-3727)

YARN CLUB, 5:30 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

THE ARC UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO, 6-10 p.m., The Arc Building, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., seats may be held until 6:30 p.m., then all seats first come, first served; games begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit Umatilla County citizens with developmental disabilities. 18 years or older, must have proof of age and photo I.D. Basic pot \$20, prizes range from \$20-\$750. (541-567-7615)

FIDDLERS NIGHT, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Enjoy light refreshments, listen to some favorite oldies or join in the jam session. All ages welcome. (541-567-3141)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 MEGA SPORTS CAMP: CONQUER THE DAY, 8-11:30 a.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Kids in grades 1-6 can choose baseball, basketball, soccer or cheerleading and learn new skills and fundamentals in a positive and encouraging environment. Between sports session, coaches lead songs and inspiring sports and Bible stories. (Ricky and Sylvia 541-276-3369)

HEPPNER FARMERS MARKET, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Heppner City Park, 444 N. Main St., Heppner. Local produce, crafts, baked goods and more. (Don or Jo Ann Shannon 541-676-8957)

STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)

Donate eclipse glasses for 2019

Now that the eclipse is over, sky-watchers may be inclined to toss their protective eyewear in the nearest trash can. One organization has a better idea: donate them.

Astronomers Without Borders has started a drive to collect used glasses from the 2017 eclipse, to be re-used for an eclipse that will cross parts of the Pacific Ocean and South America in July 2019.

The group will announce locations where people can drop their glasses in the next few days. Information is also available at the website www.astronomerswithoutborders.org.

Eclipse-watchers can also hang onto their glasses, as the next one to cross North America will be in 2024, which will pass from Mazatlán, Mexico, to Newfoundland, Canada.

Local crews traveling to help fight Milli Fire

BOARDMAN — Several local crews are traveling to help fight a wildfire in central Oregon. Four people each from the Boardman Rural Fire Protection District, Umatilla County Fire District, and La Grande Rural Fire Protection District are going to fight the Milli Fire, which has been burning in the Three Sisters Wilderness near Sisters since Aug. 11. Caused by a lightning strike, the fire had grown to more than 10,000 acres by Monday.

The crews left for central Oregon around 9 p.m. Monday.

"There's tons of crews from other areas helping out," said Lt. Casey Zellars with Boardman's fire department. "The crews from around here were meeting up with two other crews, from Klamath and Clackamas."

Neal Early Learning Center to celebrate opening

BOARDMAN — The Neal Early Learning Center will celebrate its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony Wednesday, Aug. 30 in Boardman.

Located adjacent to the SAGE Center and Blue Mountain Community College's new Workforce Training Center, the \$2.1 million early learning center was spearheaded by the Port of Morrow in partnership with the Morrow County School District, Umatilla-Morrow Head Start and the InterMountain Education Service District.

The center is named after longtime Eastern Oregon residents Gary and Kathy Neal. Gary has served as the Port of Morrow's general manager since 1989, while Kathy served 17 years on the IMESD Board of Directors.

"I really believe that providing a strong foundation for our youngest children is what they need to be successful in school and life," Kathy Neal said. "We need to be giving our kids the best opportunity we can from the beginning."

The early learning center will provide several programs, including free preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds in the Morrow County School District. Umatilla-Morrow Head Start will manage the facility, which includes three classrooms, as well as separate classrooms for infants and toddlers hosted by BMCC and the IMESD Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education program.

The ribbon cutting will begin at 3 p.m. and is open to the public. For more information, visit www.morrow.k12.or.us.

Milton-Freewater, Heppner farms honored as century farms

Two Eastern Oregon farms joined the century farms club Tuesday.

The Oregon Farm Bureau announced that Stubblefield Ranch near Milton-Freewater and Sievers Farm near Heppner were 2017 inductees into the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch program.

According to a press release, Francis Marion Stubblefield purchased 160 acres of land for his ranch in 1876 to grow wheat, peas, barley, and hay in addition to raising cows and pigs.

Stubblefield was killed in a farm accident in 1893, but his family kept the farm going, dropping livestock from their operations after World War II.

The Stubblefield Ranch now focuses on wheat, peas and garbanzo beans as its main crops and was nominated for century farm status by Margot Turner, Stubblefield's great-granddaughter.

Will Sievers established his Morrow County as a wheat farm in 1907, but it was converted to grass in the 1980s when the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program came to Heppner.

Sievers' granddaughters — Diana Arvieux, Rosemary Wood and Trudy Stenger — applied for the century farm designation and Arvieux's husband, Daniel, continues to manage the land.

A partnership between the Oregon Farm Bureau, the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and Oregon State University, the century farm program was established in 1958 and bestows honorees with signed certificates from the governor and director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture in addition to a road sign with historical information on the farm.

The farms will be honored at the Oregon State Fair in Salem on Saturday.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to news@eastoregonian.com

For a complete listing of regional events, visit easternoregonian.com

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23 MEGA SPORTS CAMP: CONQUER THE DAY, 8-11:30 a.m., Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Kids in grades 1-6 can choose baseball, basketball, soccer or cheerleading and learn new skills and fundamentals in a positive and encouraging environment. Between sports session, coaches lead songs and inspiring sports and Bible stories. (Ricky and Sylvia 541-276-3369)

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)

ADULT BEGINNERS' COMPUTERS, 3-4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library meeting room, 502 S.W. Dorion

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