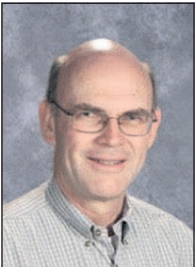


BRIEFLY

Hermiston science teacher honored

HERMISTON — A Hermiston teacher has been recognized by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers. Robert Doherty, a science teacher at Armand Larive Middle School, has been given the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Award for the Pacific Northwest region, a nod to his exceptional efforts teaching earth sciences at the middle school. Doherty will attend an annual meeting with other award winners, where he will talk with other science teachers and geoscientists. “Mr. Doherty is a great example of the type of teaching happening in our schools,” said interim Superintendent Tricia Mooney. “I am not at all surprised by this recognition.” Doherty is also the advisor for Armand Larive TV, where students produce their own monthly news show. He recently led five students from the program on an expedition to Warm Springs, where they reported on the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21. They live-streamed coverage that morning, and a complete show featuring the eclipse will be available this month.



Doherty

Pendleton man dies after bicycle crash

PENDLETON — Doug Webb of Pendleton died Wednesday after crashing his bicycle. Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts reported the cause of the crash remains unknown. Pendleton medics and police at about 1 p.m. responded to Northwest 12th Street and Despain Avenue for a man in the intersection who had head trauma and was unconscious. Roberts said an eyewitness reported there were no vehicles on the street at the time, and Webb fractured his skull and pelvis in the crash. “Based on outcome, I suspect the cause (of the accident) was medical,” Roberts said in an email. The LifeFlight helicopter ambulance was flying Webb to Oregon Health & Science University Hospital, Portland, but Roberts said Webb went into “full cardiac arrest” en route. Larry Blanc, spokesman for St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton, said the helicopter instead brought Webb to the hospital’s emergency department, where he died.

Hospital thanks officer for saving life

PILOT ROCK — Police officer Daniel Badal received a nod of recognition for saving a life. Police Chief Bill Caldera during the city council meeting Tuesday night shared a letter he received from Michael Kaulback, nurse at St. Anthony Hospital’s emergency department in Pendleton. Badal on Aug. 18 performed CPR on a man then rushed him to the emergency department, according to the letter. “Consequently, when the patient got to us he had a pulse,” Kaulback stated in the letter. “We were able to stabilize the patient who subsequently walked out of out facility the next day. ... Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to Officer Badal.” Steve Hardin, the manager of emergency department, wrote that Badal is a “true asset to our community and your department.” Caldera told the council he would issue a commendation to Badal. “He puts the city in a favorable light with a lot of people,” Caldera said.

Dance class introduces Arizona 2-Step

PENDLETON — A new dance suitable for small dance floors is coming to Pendleton. Pendleton Parks and Recreation is offering a class for ages 18 and up to learn the new steps beginning Oct. 3 at the Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave. The Arizona 2-Step stays mostly in one place, but is loaded with turns and patterns. The class will teach simple steps, how to lead and follow, and what to listen for in the music to gain confidence and have fun. The class meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. beginning Tuesday, Oct. 3 and continuing for four weeks. Cost to participate is \$24, and no prior dance experience or partner are necessary. Wear shoes that accommodate turning steps. Prior to the new class, an East Coast Swing and 4-Step Swing class will meet from 6:15-7:15 p.m. This class also meets Tuesdays beginning Oct. 3 and continues for four weeks. Registration for the dance classes is required by Sept. 27. Call the parks and rec office at 541-276-8100 or visit the office at 875 Tutuilla Road.

Domestic Violence Services shares donation wish list

With National Domestic Violence Awareness Month just around the corner, people are invited to assist the local organization by donating items on their wish list. The nonprofit organization provides shelter, meals and support services for victims of domestic/sexual violence in Umatilla and Morrow counties. A variety of food, personal hygiene items and household supplies are needed. For a specific list, visit the organization’s website. The group isn’t currently accepting used clothing, but is always in need of new packages of socks, underwear, sweats, pajamas, slippers and shoes. In addition, monetary donations are accepted. Donations are tax-deductible. Domestic Violence Services has shelters in Hermiston and Pendleton. The nonprofit organization provides help to all victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In addition to the shelters, the agency provides a 24-hour crisis line, safety planning, peer support and referrals for temporary emergency shelter for adult males. Donations can be dropped off at Domestic Violence Services offices in Pendleton and Hermiston during business hours. For directions, or to make donation arrangements, call 541-276-3322. For more about the organization, visit www.domesticviolenceservices-or.org.

Dance team holds fundraiser

PENDLETON — Rhythmic Mode, Pendleton High School’s award-winning dance team, is holding a can and bottle drive to raise funds for the group. Dance team members will be at Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. to collect returnable bottles and cans. Those who are unable to bring donations to the park may call 541-377-0675 to arrange pick-ups from homes and businesses. For more information, contact Lora Franks at 541-377-0675.

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.

HERMISTON

Downtown parking studies find more than enough places to park

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

The Pendleton Downtown Association and the Pendleton Development Commission studied downtown parking for months. They concluded there are issues, but finding a parking spot isn’t one of them. Charles Denight, the development commission’s associate director, and Molly Turner, the downtown association’s executive director, presented their findings to the commission at a meeting Tuesday. Denight and Turner observed the 311 public parking spaces and the 339 on-street parking spaces between Southeast First Street and Southwest First Street, Umatilla River to railroad, twice a day for ten days straight in March and August. They found that the overall average of vacant parking spaces never dipped below 50 percent. The six public parking lots near Main Street were especially empty — the vacancy average often crept toward 70 percent. “We have a perception of a parking problem but we do not have a parking problem. ... People perceive it to be a problem if they can’t park in front of the store they want to visit or the restaurant where they want to go dining,” Denight said. “If they have to walk a half a block, there’s a parking problem. ... In larger cities, that would be perceived as not a problem.” But parking vacancy

Parking near Main Street

There are 311 public parking lot spaces and 339 on-street parking spaces between S.E. First and S.W. First streets.



Sources: Pendleton Downtown Association, Pendleton Development Commission
Antonio Sierra and Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

wasn’t the only factor they studied. The downtown association circulated a survey that asked downtown business owners questions about parking habits and enforcement. Turner sent the survey to 217 downtown businesses and received 37 responses, a 15.7 percent response rate. More than 82 percent of respondents favored enforcement for two-, three- or four-hour parking, but nearly 56 percent admitted they used on-street parking near their businesses. Half

of the owners surveyed said they’ve received complaints about parking shortages and 20.6 percent of those respondents reported receiving five or more complaints from customers in the last month. According to Denight and Turner, the city still needs to find a way to relocate cars, including those that belong to local business owners and employees, from on-street parking to public parking lots. But given the results of the parking survey, Mayor John Turner needed more convincing.

One less health insurance company for Eastern Oregon

New plans coming to insurance marketplace

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

In 2018, Eastern Oregon counties will be down to two insurance options through HealthCare.gov. Moda Health and Providence Health Plan will continue offering plans on the health insurance marketplace to almost all counties, according to information from the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, while Bridgespan Health Co. will drop out of most of the state. The department’s table of county-by-county coverage for 2018 shows Bridgespan will remain in the marketplace in just three urban counties — Clackamas, Multnomah and

Washington. The Oregonian in June reported Regence BlueCross BlueShield and its affiliate Bridgespan started informing customers that due to market uncertainty they would pull out of most counties in 2018. Elizabeth Cronen, spokesperson for the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace, said Moda and Providence will also sell 2018 plans in Umatilla and Morrow counties outside of HealthCare.gov, as will Health Net, Regence and Bridgespan. That’s two carriers on the exchange and five carriers in the off-exchange market for Umatilla and Morrow counties and the rest of Eastern Oregon. Cronen also said financial

assistance is available only on the exchange, and she noted the number of carriers are not the same as the number of plans available. “Carriers offer multiple plans to choose from,” she said in an email. “On exchange, they usually offer at least three different plans.” Josh Goller said that’s the upshot of the exchange in 2018. He’s the benefit department manager with Simmons Insurance Group, Hermiston. “We do have some new plans that weren’t available last year,” he said. The health insurance marketplace in Oregon has offered the state’s standardized bronze, silver and gold plans, he said, but starting in 2018 the options expand with a few more plans. Goller also encouraged

“I’m kind of having a hard time seeing a sense of urgency or outrage on the part of downtown residents and merchants,” he said. “You’re going to get a pretty low turnout for these types of surveys, so that’s not surprising. But I see a lot of people who don’t want to have enforcement and don’t really see a huge problem.” Molly Turner disagreed, countering that the return rate was actually relatively high for a survey of its kind. “The fact that a large portion of people were in favor of enforcement also suggests that people want to see something done,” she said. Denight said the city could start enforcing parking laws and citing people, but didn’t want that to be the first resort. “Personally, I hope we can start with the carrot approach before we move on to the stick approach,” he said. Denight said a brand for Pendleton’s parking program needed to be created that could “capture the public’s imagination.” He said Susan Christensen, executive director of the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corp., has worked on parking studies in Portland and Bend and would be willing to work with the commission on a communication campaign. Contact Antonio Sierra at asierra@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0836.

COMING EVENTS

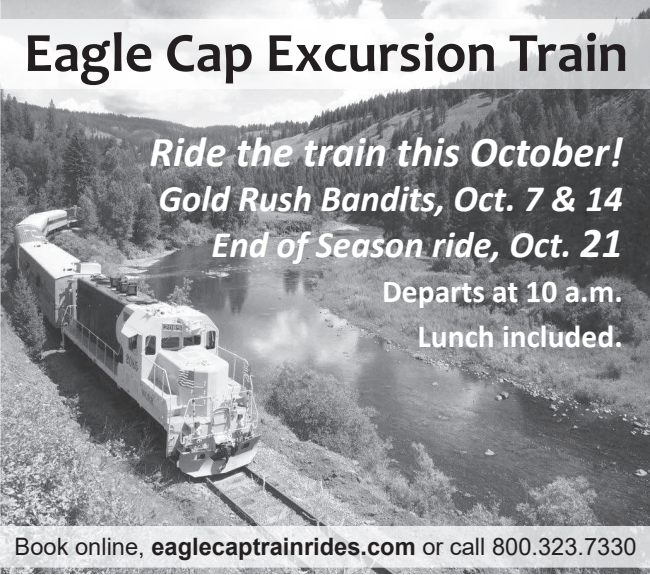
For a complete listing of regional events, visit easternoregonevents.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22
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)
WELCOME HOME VETERANS, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Walla Walla VA Medical Center, 77 Wainwright Drive, Walla Walla. Veterans information, public job fair, unveiling of interpretive panels on VA campus, Buffalo Soldiers of Seattle, breakfast bagels, car show ‘n’ shine and more. Free. (Linda Wondra 509-525-5200 ext. 26520)
STORY TIME, 10:15 a.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
PENDLETON FARMERS MARKET, 4-7 p.m., 300 block, South Main Street, Pendleton. Local produce, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, live music, food vendors and more. (Cheryl Montgomery 541-969-9466)
VFW BINGO, 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-6219)
SAGE CENTER MOVIE EVENT, 7:15 p.m., SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Enjoy “Captain Underpants” and popcorn with \$3 admission. Bottled water will be available for cash purchase. All ages. (Stefanie Swindler 541-481-7243)
SATURDAY, SEPT. 23
RHYTHMIC MODE CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Roy Raley Park, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Drop off returnable bottles and cans from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call or text 541-377-0675 before noon on Saturday for pick-up. (Lora Franks 541-377-0675)
L’IL BUCKS OPEN GYM, 8:30 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. For students in first-third grades.
HERMISTON FARMERS MARKET, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Festival Plaza, Northeast Second Street

and Main, Hermiston. Local produce, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, art, live music, food vendors and more.
POW POKER BIKE RIDE, 9-11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot, 108 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton. Bike riding season is almost over. Join us for a fun Poker Ride. Bring \$5 to enter. (Christine 734-755-7034)
PENDLETON JR. LIVESTOCK SHOW AND AUCTION, 9 a.m., Pendleton Round-Up Grounds Pavilion, 1205 S.W. Court Ave., Pendleton. Livestock show for steers, lambs and hogs begins at 9 a.m., auction starts at 6 p.m. All purchases tax deductible; proceeds benefit 4-H and FFA youth.
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Humbert Refuse & Recycling, 54841 Highway 332, Milton-Freewater. Bring household hazardous waste such as aerosol cans, paint, engine cleaners, fluorescent bulbs, motor oil, pesticides, solvents, batteries, mercury thermometers and more for free disposal. Explosives, sharps, ammunition and products containing radiation (such as smoke detectors) will NOT be accepted. Small businesses and farms may dispose of their hazardous waste for a fee (pre-registration required). (971-401-0367)
FREE FOR ALL, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free art classes for children up to age 12. Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)
YARN CLUB, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-2882)
PEACE POLE DEDICATION, 10 a.m., Umatilla County Fire District Station 24, 285 W. Coe Ave., Stanfield. Members of the Umatilla County Fire District and Hermiston Rotary will dedicate the peace pole inscribed in four languages, including representatives of each of the languages. Everyone welcome.
HIP & HANDMADE, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St., Pendleton. Free drop-in project class for adults. (Roberta Lavadour 541-278-9201)
SAGE CENTER MOVIE

EVENT, 2:15 p.m., SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman. Enjoy “Captain Underpants” and popcorn with \$3 admission. Bottled water will be available for cash purchase. All ages. (Stefanie Swindler 541-481-7243)
SUNDAY, SEPT. 24
CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., former PGG parking lot, 1000 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Drop off your redeemable bottles and cans and support the Pendleton Pathfinder Club for their 2019 Chosen International Pathfinder Camporee trip.
CASON’S PLACE OPEN HOUSE, 2-4 p.m., Cason’s Place Grief Support Center, 1416 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. See the various rooms devoted to supporting children, teens and families who have lost a loved one. Free. (541-612-0828)
KBLU CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP, 3 p.m., Pridogal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Share ideas on format of Pendleton area’s newest radio station. (Vickie or Gary 541-566-2744 or 541-566-0131)
ADULT OPEN GYM, 6:30 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. Half-court basketball. Adults only.

FIDDLER’S NIGHT, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Brookdale Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Join the jam session, or just listen. Light refreshments included. (Laura Mecham 541-567-3141)
MONDAY, SEPT. 25
TAI CHI: MOVING FOR BETTER BALANCE, 9:45 a.m., Good Shepherd Wellness Center, 610 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston. Improve balance, increase flexibility and strengthen core muscles. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and shoes with flexible soles. Can be performed standing or sitting. Class size capped at 15; registration required. (Lynda Carraher 541-922-4203)
TOT TIME, 10 a.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. For children ages 0-5.
PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 a.m., Athena Public Library, 418 E. Main St., Athena. For ages birth to 6. (541-566-2470)
PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 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)



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