

BRIEFLY

Gubernatorial candidate in Hermiston Friday

HERMISTON — Republican candidate for governor Greg Wooldrige will be in Hermiston Friday.

The public is invited to visit with Wooldrige at 6 p.m. at the Maxwell Event Center, 145 N. First Place.

Wooldrige is one of the front-runners in a field of 17 candidates for governor, including 10 Republicans. He is a veteran naval aviator and former commanding officer of the Navy's Blue Angels squadron. After retiring from the Navy he worked for FedEx helping the company optimize air cargo operations and is now a motivational speaker.

Information about his platforms can be found online at wooldrigefororegon.com.

Leadership Hermiston hosts Stuff the Bus

HERMISTON — As part of Leadership Hermiston Class 21, a Stuff the Bus event will be held to provide help to those in need.

Items collected will be distributed to Agape House, Desert Rose Ministries, the Hermiston Warming Station and the Hermiston shelter of Domestic Violence Services.

The public can make donation to help fill the bus Saturday, April 7 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Walmart, 1350 N. First St., Fiesta Foods, 1875 N. First St., or Safeway, 990 S. Highway 395.

Items needed include such things as household cleaning products, snacks, canned foods, cereal, juice boxes, bottled water, personal hygiene supplies, paper products, plastic utensils, diapers and baby wipes. Also, checks or cash donations will be accepted.

In addition, people can volunteer to help during the event. For more information, contact Aimee Cook at 949-328-0441, amieceait@aol.com or Brad Wayland at 541-667-6119.

Oldies Night features Linda Ronstadt

MILTON-FREEWATER — Enjoying a long and varied career as a recording artist, Linda Ronstadt scored her first hit record, "Different Drum," as part of a trio called the Stone Poneys in late 1967.

Over the next three decades, Ronstadt had dozens of singles and albums on the charts. They included pop music, folk rock, trios with Dolly Parton and Emmylou Harris, Spanish language recordings, duets, recordings of big band-era songs with Nelson Riddle, and a Christmas album. Across the musical genres, many of her songs were remakes of other artists' hits from the past.

BJ the DJ will spin such tunes as "Poor, Poor Pitiful Me," "You're No Good," "When Will I Be Loved" and "Blue Bayou." The free event is Saturday at 7 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.

For more information, contact Bob Jones at 541-938-7028 or dubuquer@charter.net.

Historical society sets annual meeting

PENDLETON — Members of the Umatilla County Historical Society are invited to its annual meeting.

The event will include a preview of the upcoming Wheat Exhibit, hors d'oeuvres by Simply Catering and live music by Carl Scheeler. The meeting is Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Heritage Station Museum, 108 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton.

Those interested in becoming a member of the historical society are encouraged to contact Kari Brooks, Director of Development & Membership, at 541-276-

0012, membership@heritagestationmuseum.org or stop by Heritage Station Museum. For more information about the museum, visit www.heritagestationmuseum.org.

Event highlights electric cars

RICHLAND — Electric vehicle enthusiasts and those who are curious about them are invited to a free event in Richland.

As part of an Earth Month celebration, the Electric Vehicle Event will feature current information about electric vehicles, what's ahead in the future, local charging infrastructure and the environmental benefits of electric vehicles. In addition, test drives may be available.

The free event is Sunday from 1-4 p.m. at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive, Richland, Washington. Sponsored by the Green Party of the Mid-Columbia, it's not a sales or commercial event and there will be no sales presentations. The intent of organizers is to inform the public about transportation alternatives.

For more information, contact Laura Lockwood at 509-303-0929 (text), lalockwood56@gmail.com or 509-987-1249.

AAUW hosts equal pay event

PENDLETON — The Pendleton Chapter of the American Association of University Women invite the public to an event recognizing Equal Pay Day.

The event is Tuesday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton. In addition, the student associates organization will host an event at Blue Mountain Community College.

During the event at Great Pacific, AAUW members will hand out Payday candy bars along with information for employees and employers about equal pay laws recently passed by the Oregon legislature.

For more information, contact Marlene Krout at mkaykrout@yahoo.com or 541-276-7596.

Barreto to address Republican women

PENDLETON — District 58 Rep. Greg Barreto will provide an update on the last legislative session during the upcoming Round Up Republican Women's meeting.

Everyone is welcome to attend Thursday, April 12 at 11:45 a.m. at the Red Lion, 304 S.E. Nye Ave., Pendleton. The cost is \$11 for members and \$13 for non-members. Those who plan to attend are asked to register in advance.

Also attending the event will be Aaron Withe, Oregon director with the Freedom Foundation. He will share about the influence of government unions on the political cycle and the stronghold that they have on the government.

To RSVP or for more information, contact 541-276-3182 or rounduprw@gmail.com.

Umatilla County approves provider for new drug court

East Oregonian

Community Counseling Solutions will be the new treatment provider for Umatilla County's rebooted drug court.

The county's Community Justice Department oversaw drug court until funding ran out last year. Under a new plan, local state courts and the public safety coordinating council will operate a treatment court starting in July. Community Justice director

Dale Primmer asked commissioners at their meeting Wednesday morning in Pendleton to allow Community Counseling Solutions to provide the treatment.

Commissioner Bill Elfering said he was involved in discussions leading to the request. He said the public has called for treatment court, and the new model is a more efficient use of public money and more effective because it will provide services to people who want into the program.

He and fellow commissioners George Murdock and Larry Givens each voted in favor of the proposal.

The board of commissioners also approved several thousands in grants for community and economic development.

The Hermiston Cinco de Mayo festival received \$8,000 for a sign with a digital screen; Dragon's Gate Brewery received \$5,000 for landscaping and other enhancements; and

Smith's Tiny Farm and Micro Creamery of Hermiston received a \$9,000 grant for a solar power plant.

The Economic and Community Development Grant Committee suggested Smith's use Oregon solar companies rather than a California company.

And the county board approved a \$10,000 grant to Umatilla County Historical Society to remodel its railroad signal house exhibit and create a permanent military exhibit.

ADAMS



File photo

Youth baseball players stride to their season openers during the 2016 Adams Day celebration. This year's event is Saturday, April 14.

Community celebrates baseball, apple pie and Adams Day

East Oregonian

Excitement is in the air as the beginning of the Triangle Little League season is set to start.

Each year, the Adams Ladies Club helps in coordinating the celebration with Adams Day. In addition to a full day of baseball, the community-wide event

offers a variety of activities Saturday, April 14. It begins with a firemen's breakfast at 7 a.m. (there is a fee).

The parade gets rolling at 9 a.m. To inquire about entering the parade, call Carol Mills at 541-566-3410.

The event also features a book sale, community-wide yard sales and vendors in the city park. For information

about being a vendor, call Mary Patterson at 541-440-2082.

And, of course, you won't want to miss the Adams Ladies Club pie sale. The delectable delights will be available in the Friendship Center.

For more information, visit www.cityofadam-soregon.com.

Money from two ends of Umatilla County pour into commissioner race

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Hermiston residents are putting their money into the re-election campaign of Umatilla County Commissioner Larry Givens of Milton-Freewater. And a Milton-Freewater family is the main backer of his challenger, Athena Mayor John Shafer.

Givens has raised \$7,406 this year, according to the latest state elections financial data, and he has almost \$7,300 cash on hand. Around \$2,000 came from several big names in Hermiston.

Farmer Bob Levy, agricultural engineer Fred Ziari, plant pathologist Phil Hamm and former county fair board member Dan Dorran each gave at least \$150 to Givens' effort.

Bill Elfering, fellow county commissioner, gave \$250 to the campaign. And attorney George Anderson gave \$500, as did Mayor David Drotzmann.

The re-election committee for state Rep. Greg Smith, R-Heppner, gave \$1,000. But Givens' top contributor is his

business, L & A Ranches, Milton-Freewater, which he used to loan his campaign \$3,000.

Shafer, supervisor of the dispatch center for the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, has raised \$5,904 in his effort to oust Givens, and he has a cash balance of \$1,545.

The Milton-Freewater Rural Fire District, a for-profit business, gave Shafer's campaign \$500. Charles Danforth of Milton-Freewater gave \$2,000, and Danforth's mother-in-law, Ann Jolly, gave \$2,000 as well. Charles Danforth said he has known Shafer a long time and trusts him.

Tamra Mabbott, the former county planning director now overseeing community development for the city of Umatilla, gave Shafer's campaign \$50 cash plus two tickets worth \$60 to the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce dinner.

Suni Danforth, wife of Charles, is the president of the Milton-Freewater Republican Women. The group teamed up with two local Milton-Freewater businesses, Marv's Glass Shop and the Valley Herald newspaper, to sponsor a meet-and-greet Wednesday in Milton-Freewater for Shafer.

Umatilla County commissioners are non-partisan positions. Suni Danforth said the Milton-Freewater Republican Women has no plans to hold a similar event for Givens, but the group will invite all the county commissioner candidates to a forum closer to the

May 15 primary election. Givens, Shafer and other candidates will have time together on stage for a forum next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Armand Larive Middle School, 1497 S.W. Ninth St., Hermiston.



Givens



Shafer

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GEODC offers interest-free loans for home repair

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Homeowners struggling to afford repairs can now take advantage of the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program.

The program, offered in a partnership between Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation and the city of Hermiston, allows homeowners to use loans with a zero percent interest rate to make essential home repairs. They are not required to make any repayment on the loan until they sell the home.

"Essential" home repairs covered by the program include health concerns such as asbestos removal, structural repairs, roof repairs, weatherization, electrical repairs, plumbing repairs, heating system repairs or accessibility items like wheelchair ramps.

Applicants must own and occupy the home in question and have enough equity in the home to secure the loan, but be low to moderate income. The home must be located within Hermiston and not in a flood zone. Manufactured homes must be newer than 1978 and the homeowners must maintain hazard insurance until the loan is repaid.

"This is a great opportunity for older workers, or seniors who are on a fixed income and want to remain in their homes, but can't afford major repairs," Mayor David Drotzmann said in a news release.

For more information visit www.geodc.net/housing-programs or contact Judy Moore of GEODC at 541-612-7090 or judy.moore@geodc.net.

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