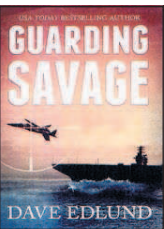


Library display focuses on photography

HERMISTON — Beginning as a hobby in 2004, Andrea Aldrich has an eye for photography. She received best of show during the 2017 youth division of the Eastern Oregon Art Show, held in conjunction with Hermiston Funfest. Titled “The Next Generation,” Aldrich captured a shot of a row of birds sitting on a fence. For a chance to see more of her work, stop by the Hermiston Public Library during the month of June as a collection of her photos are on display during her first solo show. Open Monday through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday/Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the library is located at 235 E. Gladys Ave. For more information, call 541-567-2882 or visit www.hermistonlibrary.us.

High-octane thriller latest in Savage series

Fans of Dave Edlund’s award-winning action hero series starring Peter Savage, an engineering entrepreneur with some serious save-the-world chops, will be happy to know a new thriller is on the way: “Guarding Savage,” due out in October 2018.



Savage shares the limelight in Edlund’s new thriller with man’s best friend — a pit bull that’s all sweetness and light until his master is in danger. The well-trained pooch has a starring role in the non-stop action that begins with an attempted kidnapping and circles the globe to stop an obsessed revenge plot from plunging the U.S. into a naval confrontation with China. Add in the royal family of Brunei, a covert ops team and enough firepower to sink an aircraft carrier, and “Guarding Savage” will take you on a wild ride. Edlund, like his leading man, is an inventor — he holds 90 U.S. patents, more than 120 foreign patents and is a leading expert on hydrogen energy. He holds a doctoral degree in chemistry and has published more than 100 technical articles, presentations and books on alternative energy. “Guarding Savage” is Edlund’s fifth novel starring Peter Savage.

“Guarding Savage” by Dave Edlund. © 2018, Light Messages Publishing.

Summer concert series tunes up in Irrigon, Boardman

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

With summer just around the corner, north Morrow County is tuning up for a fantastic lineup of free outdoor concerts. Music in the Parks alternates between Irrigon and Boardman marina parks each Monday at 7 p.m. People are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs and enjoy the music with the Columbia River providing a beautiful backdrop. Returning for the concert series is piano phenom Brady Goss, who presents a high-energy performance June 18 at Irrigon Marina Park. Known for his wizardry on the keyboards, the former Wallowa County resident plays with incredible speed, finesse and dexterity. It’s no surprise he points to Jerry Lee Lewis as one of his greatest influences. Jackie McCauley said a num-

ber of other familiar faces are returning for the summer series. Also, a couple of new acts will take the stage, including Bobby and Faith (June 25, Boardman) and Los Potrillos De Nayarit (July 9, Boardman). Bobby Nelsen and Faith Martin are said to possess “fantastic musical chemistry.” The pair met during an outdoor concert in 2004 in Echo. Nelsen, lead guitarist for Tri-Cities band The Shades, was filling in for a friend’s band when they invited Martin onstage for a few numbers. Martin, a Tri-Cities radio personality, was later invited to join The Shades. While the duo can really rock, they take it down a few notches when performing acoustically. Los Potrillos De Nayarit is a four-piece Latin band based out of Hermiston. They’ve performed throughout the region, including at bars, restaurants, Cinco de Mayo events and private parties.

A special July 2 concert event in Irrigon will honor veterans. The duo of Marie Rose and Renate Meakins, 98% Angels, began singing together in 1998 while attending Blue Mountain Community College. They perform everything from swing standards and Big Band music to hits from the 1950s-1960s and contemporary pop and country tunes. “As a salute to veterans, they invite them to come up to the stage and share where they served and what branch,” McCauley said. “If you can only make one show a year, this one is fabulous.” Other concerts feature Cruise Control playing classic rock and roll (July 16, Irrigon), MissyG Band performing country music (July 23, Boardman), Buttercreek Boys strumming old-time favorites (July 30, Irrigon), Blue Mt. Spanish Sound, an energetic acoustic guitar duo

(Aug. 6, Boardman), and regional horn band Brass Fire (Aug. 13, Irrigon). The Boardman Little League will offer concessions during concerts held there. Although an organization hasn’t stepped up, McCauley said it’s possible drinks may be available for purchase at Irrigon shows. People are invited to bring their own food and beverages to both venues. Also, in case of inclement weather, Boardman concerts will be held at the SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, and Irrigon performances at Stokes Landing Senior Center, 150 Columbia Lane. For more information, contact Jackie McCauley at utility.clerk@cityofboardman.com or 541-481-9252.

Contact Community Editor Tammy Malgesini at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539

WHAT TO DO

Summer sizzles with block party

PENDLETON — Main Street Pendleton is the place to be Friday, June 22. A trifecta of fun is planned, including the Pendleton Farmers’ Market (4 p.m.), the Wiener Dog Race (4:30 p.m., race heats start at 5:15 p.m.) and a Main Street Block Party (7:45 p.m.). The first of three block parties during the season, it features musical guests Orquestra Pacifico Tropical. The Portland-based band comes armed with an arsenal of percussion, woodwinds, horns, accordion and guitars. The 11 friends have come together to bring Cumbia music with a frenetic and addictive rhythm, which takes crowds into a blistering dance frenzy. The *Portland Mercury* said “anytime they take the stage, it’s a reason to party.” Also, the opening set (at 6 p.m.) will be performed by Mo Phillips & the Thunder Bubbles, who brings a lo-fi kindie rock vibe from Portland. There’s no cover charge for the all-ages event. In addition to music, the block party offers a beer garden and food. Presented by Sounds Like Entertainment in conjunction with the farmers’ market and Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., the upcoming block parties feature Tango Alpha Tango (July 20) and Brothers and Sister (Aug. 31). For more information, contact Adam Mack at 503-720-5370, bookpendleton@gmail.com or search “Sounds Like Entertainment” on Facebook.

table. Other activities held in area include farmers’ market, Main Street Block Party Series with live music and a beer garden.

Art, Museums & Authors

Avantika Bawa
•Friday, June 22; 5-7 p.m.

•Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts, 48004 St Andrews Road, Mission
www.crowssshadow.org
Free. An artist talk with Avantika Bawa, who splits her time between her hometown of New Delhi, India, and her current home in Portland, will discuss her work created during a print-making residency.

Andrea Aldrich Photo Exhibit

•Monday-Thursdays; 11 a.m.-7 p.m.,
•Friday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.

www.hermistonlibrary.us
Free. Features the work of youth division best of show award from the 2017 Eastern Oregon Art Show. Runs through June 30.

“Wandering Through Nature’s Solitude”

•Monday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
•Pendleton Art + Frame, 36 S.W. Court Ave.
Free. Features nature and wildlife photography of Pendleton photographer Jack Simons. Runs through July 7.

Nixyaawii Community School Student Print Exhibition

•Monday-Fridays; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts, 48004 St Andrews Road, Mission
www.crowssshadow.org
Free. Features student prints created under the guidance of master printer Judith Baumann. Runs through June 29.

Open Regional Photo Exhibit

•Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, noon-4 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Features 125 photos, taken by 65 adults and teens from across the region. Runs through June 29. Gallery visitors can vote for people’s choice award.

Week: Half of plastic produced each year only used once

Continued from 1C

we happily composted our food waste and drove loads of paper, glass, metal and plastic to the recycling center. After China put its foot down, we felt blindsided. Our option was to use less plastic or feel guilty every time we tossed some in the trash. I flirted again with going plastic-free, but felt overwhelmed every time I pushed my cart down a grocery aisle and saw the plethora of products encased in plastic. I sought out those who had already attempted plastic-free living. Rebecca Ryals, a college pal of my daughter, schooled me on her ongoing multi-year experience. Becca’s first weeklong effort during college was a bit half-hearted, she admitted. She told herself she would buy no new plastic. She continued to use up products on hand, however, and knew she could stock up when the week ended. “I didn’t change my habits too much,” she said. “I just put things on hold.”

During a Hawaii vacation a year later, her desire to go plastic-free revved back up. She and some friends hiked to a remote part of the Big Island to swim and got a shock. “There was plastic everywhere that had washed up on shore,” Becca said. “Most of it was things like toothbrushes and kids’ toys. I started my plastic-free efforts again and this time I was more resolute.” She joined an online community of like-minded individuals where she learned to do things like make her own shampoo instead of buying it in plastic bottles. She thought twice before buying new items and bought reusable grocery and produce bags. If she forgot her produce bags, her produce “went naked.” At stores with bulk sections, she brought her own glass containers. A store employee weighed them before filling and noted the “tare” that would be subtracted from the total weight. Though she expected store and restaurant employees might react with skepticism, she found the opposite was true. “Eighty percent of the time, cashiers comment about the bags



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Bill Aney pours greek yogurt into a strainer while at his home in Pendleton. The Aneys are making homemade yogurt as one way to reduce plastic usage.

in a positive way,” she said. “It’s a good conversation starter.” Armed with all this helpful information, Bill and I eased into a plastic-free mindset for weeks before actually pulling the trigger last week. One day last month, I sat aboard a Boeing 737 on my way to Southern California to visit family. Two flight attendants pushed a drink cart slowly down the aisle toward me, asking each passenger his or her drink preference. My eyes riveted onto the stack of plastic cups on the cart — cups I and my fellow passengers would use for some 15 minutes and then toss away to decompose for hundreds of years. I steered myself as the cart neared. “What would you like to drink?” the flight attendant asked. She smiled and waited expectantly. “Uh, do you have any cups that aren’t plastic?” I inquired. She stared at me for a beat and I imagined her mentally rolling her eyes. To her credit, she smoothly recovered and served me cranberry juice in a paper coffee cup.



Another way the Aneys reduced their one-time plastic use is to reuse plastics like this Talenti gelato container.

As she continued on to the next passenger, I did a mental fist pump. Once we started our plastic-free week for real, Bill and I felt ready. Grocery shopping, though, brought challenges. Some products came only in plastic (tortillas, cherry tomatoes, hummus, yogurt). Sometimes we could find one lone brand in a glass bottle as with apple cider vinegar, but we paid a higher price. We learned to make certain unobtainable products at home. We bought a yogurt maker and experimented with hummus recipes. We used metal water bottles and hauled com-

muter cups to the coffee shop. Bill discovered waxed cloths online to replace cling wrap. You warm a cloth with your hands and press it tightly around the object before storing in the refrigerator. I found some shampoo bars (also online) to replace shampoo in bottles. We ordered plastic-free dishwasher and laundry detergent pods and metal straws. We reused plastic bags and containers we had on hand. We got surprised a few times in restaurants. An entrée would arrive with a little plastic cup full of sauce, for example, or we would forget to ask for no straw. We had good surprises, too. One day, Bill stood at the counter at Zimmerman’s True Value Hardware in Pendleton buying an item when the cashier reached for a bag. Bill waved off the bag until the cashier told him it was biodegradable, made from a corn starch derivative. We were especially leery of fast-food restaurants. Stopping at Subway one day brought trepidation. I love Subway salads, but they come in plastic clamshells and include plastic utensils and a plastic bag. Not to worry, though. When I asked the manager, Thomas Henry, about whether I could use my own container and utensils. He said, “Sure.” Our plastic-free week saved a little bit of plastic — perhaps only a drop in the ocean — but I am hopeful. I sense a sea change of shifting public sentiment, to which companies seem to be responding. This week, for example, two cruise lines announced they will eliminate plastic straws on their ships. At the same time, science is looking into such things as how to break down plastic and clean the sea. We will continue down this plastic-free path knowing it will be a lifelong challenge. Every day feels a tiny bit easier. “You may want to give up,” Bill said when I asked him for a pithy comment. “But be persistent. Every time you ask for no plastic, it gives an opportunity for discussion and plants a seed.”

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