



EAST OREGONIAN

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A fired up Fourth

Eastern Oregon celebrates Independence Day

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Pendleton locals and others flew their patriotism at full staff at the city's annual Fourth of July parade.

The crowd stretched along the parade route of Southwest Dorion Avenue to Main Street and then to Southwest Court Avenue. The procession began with the crowd rising for the Pledge of Allegiance and from there lasted the better part of an hour, sporting Pendleton parade regulars from the Pendleton Cowboy Mounted Band to the restored Fords of the Blue Mountain As.

The Happy Canyon members may have made the biggest splash when they dumped a whole bag of Tootsie Rolls at the corner of Main and Court. Seconds later contents disappeared into the tiny fists of swarming children eager for the candy.

But above it all waved the city's massive Old Glory. Two fire trucks on either side of Main extended their ladders to drape the Stars and Stripes from a taut rope — canton up and fly end waving free in the breeze.

Trisha Parker, six of her children and her fiancé, Jarrod Baird, joined the hundreds of people watching near Main. Parker said they had a whole day planned, from the parade to fun at the city's aquatic center to stak-

See PARADE/8A

More inside

Stanfield's Fourth of July celebration draws large crowd downtown, **8A**



Lifeguard Max Rahm, 16, of Hermiston watches the fireworks show at Butte Park from the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center on Wednesday in Hermiston

Agriculture secretary meets with region's farmers

Perdue says Trump has plan to provide financial support

By GEORGE PLAVERN
EO Media Group

Wherever U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue travels across the country, he said farmers want to know the latest about trade uncertainty, labor and the status of the 2018 Farm Bill.

Tuesday's stop among the rolling wheat fields of Eastern Oregon was no different.

Perdue, USDA Secretary under President Donald Trump, arrived at Martin Farms in Rufus as part of his "Back to our Roots" tour featuring stops around the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

Flanked by Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., the duo took a brief tour of the farm before arriving back in the shop, where about 50 local farmers and county officials awaited for a meet-and-greet that quickly became an impromptu town hall.

After shaking hands and posing for pho-

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UMATILLA

Mabbott named interim city manager

Outgoing Pelleberg says dispute with Umatilla County over SIP funds will continue

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Tamra Mabbott will serve as Umatilla's interim city manager while the city conducts a nationwide search for Russ Pelleberg's replacement.

Pelleberg resigned last week to become the new city administrator of Newport, Washington. His official last day is July 27 but he will be on vacation after July 13.

Mabbott joined the city of Umatilla in August 2017 in the newly created community development director position, leaving Umatilla County after 15 years as planning director. Her additional duties as interim city manager start July 14 and include a 5 percent

See MABBOTT/7A



Left: Happy Canyon princesses Tayler Craig and Sequoia Conner wave to the crowds at the Fourth of July Parade in Pendleton. Right: Asha McClelland of Pendleton wears patriotic outfit while walking in the Pendleton parade.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

PENDLETON

Pendleton on Wheels seeks to honor one of their own

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Bicyclists with Pendleton on Wheels are working to hold a memorial ride for Ann Wyatt.

Wyatt was bicycling June 8 to her job at the U.S. Forest Service on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near Pendleton when an SUV struck and killed her. She was 62.

Connie Macomber is a member of Pendleton on Wheels. She said Ann and her husband, Oran Wyatt, moved to Pendleton 16 months ago so she could finish her career with

the Forest Service. Ann was a little less than two years from retiring, Macomber said, and they got to know each other in spin class where they rode side by side.

"Oh my gosh, she was just such a sweet, thoughtful and calm person," Macomber said.

Ann joined Pendleton on Wheels and even bought a new bicycle and new riding gear. Macomber said the organization wants to hold a memorial ride for her, and fellow



Wyatt

Wheels member Jennifer Peterson came up with the idea of T-shirts to honor Ann and spread the word about sharing the road and the dangers of distracted driving.

"At last count we have 37 T-shirts and decals we're going to be ordering," Macomber said.

She said she is putting in that order Thursday at DG Gifts & Screen Printing, Pendleton, where owner Dave Gutterud donated \$120 worth of silk screening. Gutterud

rides motorcycles, Macomber said, so the public safety message resonated with him.

"I think the more people that have them, the better," she said.

Debra Gutierrez is the administrative and budget officer for the Forest Service where Ann was the office manager. Gutierrez said Ann was "kind of our go-to for everything" and the kind of colleague who brightened the place.

"Just worked here for 16 months," she said. "For such a short time she

See WYATT/8A

"For such a short time she made a huge impact on all of us,"

— Debra Gutierrez, Forest Service administrative and budget officer

