

UMATILLA

Salty, sweet snacks buried in capsule

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

When the current students of Clara Brownell Middle School dig up their time capsule in 50 years, they can bring their appetites with them.

Students of the Umatilla school voted to place a number of items inside a time capsule, which was sealed and buried Tuesday inside one of the newly constructed platforms outside the remodeled school entrance. Many of the items students selected included their favorite snacks: a bottle of Coca-Cola, a box of Hostess Twinkies, a bag of Flaming Hot Cheetos and a bag of Takis.

“They wanted to know if the Coke bottle will change,” said principal Dawn Guentert.

They also included a yearbook, photos of current students a copy of one of the “Harry Potter” books, a Umatilla athletic jersey, a 3D printed model of the Seattle Seahawks stadium, an iPad, and a toy from a McDonald’s Happy Meal.

Superintendent Heidi Sipe brought a brick that the Alumni Association had donated from the old high school, and a letter she had written to the future superintendent.

Students crowded around as Sipe and Dean



Staff photo by Jayati Ramakrishnan

Clara Brownell Middle School Dean of Students Andrew Traver, left center, and Superintendent Heidi Sipe sealed a time capsule Tuesday.

of Students Andrew Traver packed the time capsule with the items and sealed it up. Four construction workers then pried the stone cover off the platform, which flanks the front steps of the school, and lowered the capsule into the platform.

Sipe said the idea for a time capsule came when they discovered during construction that the platforms were hollow.

“It’s a fun idea — something for the kids to feel a sense of history at school,” Sipe said.

All three of Umatilla’s

schools — McNary Heights Elementary School, Clara Brownell Middle School and Umatilla High School — are getting some renovations, but the middle school is undergoing the most change. The building was first constructed in 1947.

A group of sixth-grade students said they are excited to see what they’ll find in 50 years — if a little apprehensive.

“It’ll be cool to see if things are different,” said Amber Flower.

“And see if there’s mold,” added Eden Enkey, remembering the food items

that had just been sealed in the capsule.

Roxana Ames and Avery Gutierrez said they liked the idea of putting an iPhone or a tablet in the capsule.

“It’ll be cool to see how technology has changed,” Ames said.

Before the students dispersed for the afternoon, Sipe called them back.

“September 25, 2068 — where should you be?” She asked.

Enkey said she hopes everyone will show up.

“I think we should schedule our class reunion for the day it comes out,” she said.

Irrigon residents get OK to fly school flags

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN  
East Oregonian

The city of Irrigon will now allow residents to hang banners supporting the local high school on the city’s main road, changing a long-time rule that prohibited the display of any flags.

City Manager Aaron Palmquist said the rule was in the city’s Development Code, but the council passed an interim resolution Tuesday, Sept. 18, allowing residents to fly flags, until the code is amended. With the resolution, he said, residents are now permitted to hang flags supporting local sports teams in commercial areas.

The city’s development code, posted on its website, has a section that outlines rules for signage in commercial and residential zones. The city includes banners and flags under the

definition of “signs.” While there is no rule in the development code explicitly stating that flags can’t be flown, Palmquist said the absence of a specific rule doesn’t mean something is permitted.

“Just because it’s not there doesn’t give people the right to do it,” he said. “Because it’s absent, you can’t do it.”

He said the city has long been planning to change that rule, but it will likely take some time.

“Changing the development code is a long process,” he said.

Stephanie Linnell, an Irrigon resident and member of Irrigon Junior/Senior High School’s football moms club, said parents of athletes, and the Irrigon Knights Boosters Club, showed up at the meeting Tuesday to protest the rule and try to get it changed.

“We’re frustrated

because there’s nothing that shows we have a school,” she said.

Palmquist said the rule had been in the city’s development code for at least 15 years, prior to his arrival in Irrigon.

“The council has noted several times publicly (and listed on our future to-do items) to amend,” he wrote. “Amending the development code takes longer time and because the City supports our local youth and schools this interim policy was put into place.”

The interim policy states that members of the Irrigon Knights Booster Club must provide the city with a schedule of the dates on which sports flags will be displayed, and must hang and remove the flags themselves. Flags can be put up the night before a home game, and have to be removed the day following

the game.

But Linnell said there are stipulations in that resolution that still limit what residents can do.

“We can’t use the existing brackets on city utility poles,” she said. “We have to purchase everything, and then the city has to install it.”

She said that includes paying for new poles and concrete, and other work and other supplies that the city will need to install the poles.

Palmquist wrote that in the next three years, the city plans to start a major project that will include redesigning Main Avenue, and will include light poles on which to hang city banners, school flags and the American flag.

“If they want to do something now, it will cost them,” he said. “But if they wait, the only thing they’ll have to buy is the flags.”

HERMISTON

Community asked to open wallets during Wine & Stein

Hermiston Altrusa to host Oktoberfest fundraiser

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

People are encouraged to don their lederhosen or dirndl dresses and get ready to enjoy authentic German fare during the Oktoberfest Wine & Stein dinner and auction.

Presented by Altrusa International of Hermiston, in addition to dinner, beer and wine, the event features live/silent auctions and entertainment by Dance Unlimited. People in attendance are encouraged to dig deep into their wallets to help raise money to support a variety of community programs and service projects.

The Oktoberfest event is Saturday, with the doors opening at 5 p.m. at the Hermiston Community Center, 415 S. Highway 395. Dinner tickets are \$30. The meal features Bavarian beer roasted pork, rough mashed potthucke (potatoes), Bavarian cabbage, sauerkraut, chicken and beef brats, sour cream cucumber dill salad and bread. And, don’t forget to leave room for dessert — topping it all off is German



Contributed photo

Altrusa International of Hermiston invites people to Saturday’s Oktoberfest Wine & Stein at the Hermiston Community Center. The fundraiser helps support a variety of programs and community projects.

apfel kuchen (apple cake) and ice cream.

While the Wine & Stein event is only in its third year, Altrusa has held a fall fundraising auction for many years.

“We tried to create an event that’s fun to come to instead of just the auction,” said longtime Altrusan Pam Cooper.

Those not enticed by the delectable dinner are invited to attend the auction. Nancy

Lauck, the club’s publicity manager, said auctioneers Ford Bonney and Sandy Gross make for a fun and lively bidding process.

One of the popular items features a two-night stay at the Round Rock House in Yachats. Donated by Cooper, the beach-front cottage sleeps six with two bedrooms and a loft. It also has a full kitchen, a TV with a DVD player, and a washer and dryer. The winner must use the facility by May 15, 2019.

Other items on the auction block are gift certificates, services and items from local businesses, including a \$150 party package from Ye Olde Pizza Shoppe, \$50 toward services at Simply Divine & Day Spa and Farm-City Pro Rodeo tickets. Also, a coffee lovers dream features a Keurig, coffee, cups and more, there’s a yummy basket loaded with items from Barhyte Specialty Foods of Pendleton and a Hermiston Pet Parade collection will surely please man’s best friend

And, be sure to get pumped up for a chance to win 100 gallons of gas from Heller and Sons. The playing cards raffle features 52 cards sold for \$20 each. The winner takes all. Also, some

lucky backyard barbecuer will walk away with a Traeger Pro Series grill.

A total of 1,000 tickets will be sold at \$10 each for a chance to win.

Tickets for Oktoberfest Wine & Stein can be purchased from Altrusa members or the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce, 1055 S. Highway 395, Suite 111. For more information, contact hermistonltrusa@gmail.com or search Facebook.

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HERMISTON

Council gets update on EOTEC post-fair, changes zoning rules

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

This year’s Umatilla County Fair was a learning experience. But Al Davis, general manager of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, told the Hermiston City Council on Monday that, overall, things went well.

One of the biggest worries going into the week was parking and traffic control. Davis said organizers had a goal to not let the line of cars back up onto Highway 395 this year, and not only did they achieve that goal, but were successful in keeping Airport Road clear as well.

“We were able to open up a lot more handicap parking spaces, which was a shortage last year,” he said.

He said there was room for improvement on dust control, but the vegetation that had been planted and mowed on the overflow parking helped a lot.

Davis said he went door to door and distributed free rodeo tickets to EOTEC’s neighbors, to apologize for the inconvenience of fair/rodeo week. He also met with four families from the neighborhood association after the fair to talk about things that could be improved.

Since fair week, he said, the venue has gone “right back into EOTEC mode.”

“We’re having more weekday meetings Monday through Thursday,” he said “We’re hoping to get

more of those.”

There is high demand for weekend bookings, he said. Earlier this month, there was a Mexican Independence Day celebration that included a rodeo that sold about 1,000 seats.

He was hoping to run a few more outdoor activities this season, including a “Walktober fest” with prizes to encourage people to come walk the spacious, flat grounds. But soon it will be time to winterize the EOTEC grounds to keep pipes from freezing and focus on more indoor activities.

On Monday, the council also made a few house-keeping changes to its zoning ordinances, and added a florist shop to the conditional uses permitted in the residential R-3 zone.

City planner Clint Spencer said the city found a code violation by a florist who was operating out of a former hair salon, and she requested that the city add it as a possible conditional use. Spencer said while zoning laws are meant to “protect the character of the neighborhood,” in this case a florist shop seemed like it fit in with small grocery stores and convenience stores already permitted. And, as with any conditional use, each business must get approval from the planning commission before opening.

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Lockout at Boardman schools after police receive reported threat

East Oregonian

time police became aware of the threats.

All three Boardman schools went into lockout on Tuesday morning, after police received a report that a student may have made threats to cause injury to other students. The schools went into a lockout around 9 a.m. The lockout lasted about 20 minutes. The student has been detained and is being questioned by police, who are trying to determine the validity of the threats.

Boardman Police Chief Rick Stokoe said he couldn’t confirm which school the student attended, but thought it was Riverside High School. He said the student is male, and was not at school at the

He said he did not know exactly how the student conveyed the threats, but that someone made a report to a school resource officer.

Boardman schools had another lockout about two weeks ago, when a student made a threat on social media. Stokoe said the threats Tuesday were not made by the same student.

Stokoe said a “lockdown” means that no one can come in or out of the building, and students go into their classrooms and hide. A “lockout” means no one can enter the building, but students and staff can continue normal operations inside their classrooms.

# Inspirations,

the gift shop at St. Anthony Hospital

Located just inside the front entrance to the hospital. Open five days a week, Inspirations is staffed by generous volunteers, who are happy to help you find just what you’re looking for, whether you are a visitor, patient or employee. You can find thoughtful gifts, greeting cards, spiritual and inspirational items, stuffed animals, flowers, toys, snacks and refreshments, and special seasonal merchandise.

Profits earned through the operation of the gift shop are used to fund scholarships for students pursuing an education in healthcare as well as to purchase much-needed equipment and supplies for St. Anthony Hospital. This year alone \$11,000 in scholarships were given out.

To volunteer please call 541.966.0528

**CHI St. Anthony Hospital**

**HOURS:**  
Inspirations is open  
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