

# REAL Oregon class includes four area leaders

**REAL Oregon (Resource Education & Ag Leadership)** will launch its second leadership class in November, and the group of 30 includes four area leaders:

- **Marie Cain**, dairy & livestock controller at **Threemile Canyon Farms** in Boardman
- **Shannon Hoehna**, owner/food safety consultant at **SH Consulting** in Weston
- **Robin Pickard**, owner

of **Athena Income Tax Service** in Athena

- **Beau Reynolds**, crop insurance agent at **Northwest Farm Credit Services** in Pendleton

Participants reflect a balanced mix of resource producers, agri-businesses, advocacy organizations and government agencies. **Bill Buhrig** of **Simplot Food Group** and board chairman for REAL Oregon, said that having such a successful first year helped with recruit-

ment for Class 2. Umatilla County participants in Class 1 included **Bob Waldher** of Athena, **Sam Taylor** of Echo and **Tom Demianew** of Pendleton.

"We had a great response to the program in its second year," Buhrig said. "The quality and diversity of Class 2 applicants was outstanding and touched all corners of the state."

REAL Oregon is modeled after a similar program in Idaho. Leadership Idaho

Ag is currently preparing for its 39th class. Their longevity, Buhrig said, proves it can work and be sustainable in Oregon.

REAL Oregon is a collaboration of industry and other groups throughout the state that have recognized the importance of developing and supporting leaders within Oregon's natural resource communities. In addition to networking opportunities and learning more about the diversity of

Oregon, the program brings current and future leaders together from agriculture, fishing, and forestry for a series of sessions based in different regions of the state — including Feb. 12-14 in Boardman.

"I am very excited to get this group together and watch them grow as leaders," said **Greg Addington**, REAL Oregon executive director. "This class will build on the solid foundation established by Class

1. We are beginning to fulfill the vision of building a solid network of agriculture and natural resource leaders who will benefit the state for many years to come."

Class 2 will start in November and end with a graduation ceremony in March 2019. Recruitment of Class 3 will begin shortly after that. For more information, contact 541-892-1409, [addingtonconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:addingtonconsulting@gmail.com) or visit [www.realoregon.net](http://www.realoregon.net).

# Good Shepherd receives top workplace award

**Good Shepherd Health Care System** has been awarded a 2018 Top Workplaces honor by *The Oregonian*.

The list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by research partner **Energage, LLC** (formerly Workplace-Dynamics), a leading provider of technology-based employee engagement tools.

The anonymous survey measures several aspects of workplace culture, including alignment, execution and connection.

"Top Workplaces is more than just recognition," said **Doug Claffey**, CEO of Energage.

"Our research shows organizations that earn the award attract better talent, experience lower turnover, and are better equipped to deliver bottom-line results," Claffey said. "Their leaders prioritize and carefully craft a healthy workplace culture that supports employee engagement."

In response to the news that Good Shepherd had

been selected two years in a row for the award, president and CEO **Dennis E. Burke** said it's an honor and that the employees are the true recipients of the prestigious award.

"I believe it is a testament to our employees level of satisfaction and engagement with the organization and our community," Burke said.

"Healthcare is a challenging vocation — employees deal with people over a wide spectrum of emotions; from their most joyous of circumstances — birth of a newborn, to the most challenging — death of a loved one," Burke said. "Each day our employees display heroism, empathy, compassion, and courage in caring for our community."

Becoming a Top Workplace isn't something organizations can buy, Claffey said.

"It's an achievement organizations have worked for and a distinction that gives them a competitive advantage," Claffey added, saying, "It's a big deal."



Photo contributed by Nick Bejarano

**In February 2018, a delegation of 20 employees from Good Shepherd Health Care System attended the Health Care Service Excellence Conference in San Antonio, Texas. They received 39 awards for significant improvements made to the patient experience, which are reflected in a Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey conducted on Good Shepherd patients.**



Photo contributed by Nick Nash

**The Helix Advancement Partnership Network recently raised \$5,000 to strengthen grant applications to remodel Helix City Hall/Library.**

## Helix group networks to raise money

The **Helix Advancement Partnership Network** recently raised \$5,000 from local citizens and businesses.

The money will be used to strengthen grant applications written to help pay to remodel the Helix City Hall/Library building.

The group receives grant writing mentorship from **Eastern Oregon Business Source** community development coordinator **Bonnie Day**.

The **Umatilla County Regional Capacity Building Initiative**, in part, supports Day's work.

Helix Advancement Partnership Network was formed in 2004 to improve the quality of life, and promote the welfare of Helix residents.

Their current project

involves enhancing the city hall/library/museum building, which formerly was the old Helix Elementary School.

Largely through the work of a number of devoted volunteers, the network has made more than \$100,000 in repairs and improvements to the building, including upgrading its heating and cooling systems, repairing roof support systems and installing a new roof, restoring the basement after major flood damage, and protecting the building from future weather events.

HAPN is moving forward with the next and biggest phase of the project — expanding and updating the library.

This involves reorganizing the space that accommodates popular youth pro-

gramming that the library hosts such as the Helix Robotics group and the After School Reading program, updating library technology to better facilitate use by community groups, and restoring an original interior glass wall.

The total cost of the expansion is estimated at \$60,000.

Donors who contributed include **Gen. Fred Rees and Marylen Rees**, **Janet Wood**, the Helix Rodeo, the **Helix Telephone Company**, **Wheatland Insurance**, **Cindy and Matt Wood**, **Jeff and Sharilyn Newton**, and **Gordon and Sharon Smith**.

For more about the Helix Advancement Partnership Network, contact **Cindy Wood** at [cindyl\\_wood2@msn.com](mailto:cindyl_wood2@msn.com) or 541-969-7182.

## Historical society harvests 'gold' grant

The **Umatilla County Historical Society** recently received a grant from the **Blue Mountain Community Foundation**.

The \$3,000 will be used to help with the installation of the exhibit "**Umatilla Gold: The History of Wheat in Umatilla County**," which will be housed at **Heritage Station Museum** in Pendleton. The grant was written with the assistance from **Bonnie Day**, community development coordinator at **Eastern Oregon Business Source**.

The exhibit, which is slated to open next year, highlights wheat's importance in the history, culture, and economy of the county. It traces the path wheat travels

around the world, and tracks the different products it's used in.

Umatilla Gold is designed to change as the wheat industry adapts and evolves. This will keep the exhibit fresh and interesting across its scheduled 10-year run.

Starting in 1984, the **Blue Mountain Community Foundation** is based on the idea that the area needed a place for donors who cared about the community to make long-term charitable investments.

It has received and grown assets to exceed \$50 million in 330 charitable funds of various types.

For more information, visit [www.bluemountainfoundation.org](http://www.bluemountainfoundation.org).

### BIRTHS

**St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton**  
**OCT. 2, 2018**

Joshua W. Linehan of Pendleton: a girl, Wilder Grace Linehan.

**DOESCHER** — Tiffany N. Doescher and Jacob M. Doescher of Pendleton: a girl, Emmaline Marie Doescher.  
**OCT. 3, 2018**

**OCT. 4, 2018**  
**MALONE** — Nastasha Stiles and Ryan D. Malone of Pendleton: a girl, Nadia Valentine Malone.

**AMUNDSON** — Emily N. Amundson and Beau A. Amundson of Pendleton: a girl, Maggie Lucille Amundson.  
**LINEHAN** — Kathryn Linehan and

**OCT. 8, 2018**  
**BENETTI** — Amber Benetti and Brenden Benetti of Pendleton: a girl, Oaklee Carolinn Benetti.

## Pet of the Week

**Max is playful with lot's of energy, loves to run and play ball. When being walked does not pull stays by your side. Can not be in a home with cats.**

MAX

605 Pets Adopted in 2018!

SUBMIT YOUR EO NEWS

Submit Your EO News information and high-resolution photos to: [community@eastoregonian.com](mailto:community@eastoregonian.com) or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston, or Renee Struthers-Hogge at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Visit Max at the Pioneer Humane Society/Paws Tues - Sat • Noon - 4pm  
517 SE 3rd ST, Pendleton  
541-276-0181  
Check out the PAWSABILITY Thrift Store

SAMURAI DOGGIE

-megumi's dog grooming-

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Pendleton  
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