

Barbara Nelson fires up the Christmas spirit

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

Barbara Nelson has rounded up a few of the region's most respected back-up musicians and is presenting a holiday concert called Christmas by the Campfire.

When the Pendleton woman performs, it becomes quite clear that she loves to sing — and that joy is infectious. The award-winning musician will take the stage with guitar player Peter Willis, National Oldtime Fiddle champion Dan Emert and bass player Lori Broggetti. The show is Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. at Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each.

Playing here and there throughout the year, Nelson typically sings as a solo act. However, for the holiday show, she invited a few friends to join her.

"This group is fantastic," she said.

In addition, Nelson can often be found singing at Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co. She attends the informal event on a regular basis.

"I play weekly at the GP when I can get down there," Nelson said.

As far as holiday music, Nelson said people really seem to enjoy hearing the familiar tunes. While the songs are great to listen to, she said they aren't always the easiest to play.

"The chords go everywhere," Nelson said. "They're not that easy."

However, the seasoned musician is ready to strum



Contributed photo

Academy of Western Artists award winner Barbara Nelson of Pendleton will play a holiday concert on Dec. 18 at Pendleton Center for the Arts. Regional musicians Peter Willis, Dan Emert and Lori Broggetti also will perform.

her guitar and warm up her vocal chords for a chance to tip her hat to the holiday season. In addition to Christmas standards, she will play some of her favorite cowboy tunes.

Nelson plays guitar and sings a variety of western music, including traditional, blues, folk, old standards and swing. She grew up loving cowboy movies and the songs of Gene Autry and Roy Rogers. She even got her own horse as a fourth-grader.

In 2013, Nelson was recognized as the best female singer of 2012 — receiving the Will Rogers award by the Academy of Western Artists. In addition, she's a two-time nominee for the best CD of the year by the Western Music Association. Her 2012 release, "Crazy Western Swing," was in the top 10 albums in Western Way magazine.

Nelson has performed at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Ellensburg, Washington, the Western

Music Association showcase in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and has opened the awards ceremonies for the Academy of Western Artists in Dallas, Texas.

Tickets are available at www.pendletonarts.org or by calling 541-278-9201. For more about Nelson, visit www.barbaranelson-music.com.

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

Idaho cops may have caught suspects in Pendleton burglaries

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Suspects sought by Pendleton police in two recent burglaries may be in custody in Boise.

Pendleton Police Chief Stuart Roberts said the burglaries occurred in an affluent neighborhood in the northeast part of town during the morning of Nov. 26. The police department, however, didn't know about the crimes until one victim returned home later that day and the other returned Dec. 1. The methods of the crimes were the same in both cases and followed a typical scheme.

The offenders knocked on doors, Roberts said, and if no one answered they used a cordless saw to drill a hole in the door and reach in and unlock the door.

"They spent quite some time inside the residences and primarily what they took was jewelry," he said.

They also stole pillow cases to stuff the goods in.

Officers investigated and found witnesses who said they saw an older model

SUV with Idaho plates parked in front of neighboring houses and a white female and white male going back and forth to the vehicle. The activity was suspicious enough one neighbor wrote down the license plate number, Roberts said, but no one called police.

The license plate proved crucial. Roberts said the investigation determined the number belonged to a Cadillac Escalade from Meridian, Idaho. Pendleton police contacted their counterparts in Meridian and Boise, where officers were familiar with this crew and looking for them. Then Tuesday night, he said, the Ada County Sheriff's Office caught the suspects during a burglary of a residence there.

Roberts did not identify the suspects. Pendleton police are working to determine if they had items from the Pendleton homes. He also said the Pendleton residents may have to drive to Boise to identify belongings. The police chief said he hoped to have more information about the case soon.

Umatilla acquires 27 acres of land

East Oregonian

The city of Umatilla added 27 acres to its inventory when the city council agreed to acquire a property at a meeting Tuesday.

The property is at the corner of Highway 730 and Highway 395 and was acquired from Hermiston Power Partnership, a subsidiary of Calpine Corp., a power plant operator.

The company had been

making mitigation payments, which average about \$7,500 per year, to Umatilla for running transmission lines through the land. Instead of money changing hands, Hermiston Power Partnership will forgo the last five years of payments.

Melissa Ince, deputy city manager and finance director, said the city hasn't determined a use for the property yet, but it could be developed for wetland mitigation or commercial purposes.

Milton-Freewater man delays trial for flagger's death

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Umatilla County Circuit Court delayed the manslaughter trial of Leman Louis Bledsoe of Milton-Freewater.

Bledsoe, 77, in late November asked the court to push back his trial, which was on the docket for Dec. 10-14. According to court records, Bledsoe wanted more time to prepare.

Circuit Judge Christopher Brauer granted the request and set a pre-trial hearing in the case for the morning of Jan. 17 in Pendleton.

Oregon State Police arrested Bledsoe the night

of Aug. 15 for driving through a road construction zone on Highway 11 where his vehicle struck and killed flagger Tyresa Monaghan of Kennewick. The district attorney's office charged Bledsoe with first-degree manslaughter, second-degree manslaughter, hit-and-run involving a person, driving under the influence of intoxicants, reckless endangerment of highway workers, hit-and-run involving property, two counts of recklessly endangering another person and one count of reckless driving.

Bledsoe was serving probation for a 2015 menacing case, according to

court records. Part of his compliance included not using alcohol.

The district attorney's office also notified the court it could call as many as 40 witnesses for the manslaughter trial. The list includes other victims, highway workers and emergency personnel. The state also could bring in Bledsoe's previous alcohol and drug counselor to testify about his failure to comply with treatment and a state forensic scientist to testify to confirming the presence of Monaghan's DNA on Bledsoe's vehicle.

Bledsoe remains in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, in lieu of \$790,000 bail.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7
FREE FIRST FRIDAY, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tamastislikt Cultural Institute, 47106 Wildhorse Blvd., Pendleton. Free admission all day. (541-966-9748)

PEARL HARBOR COMMEMORATION AND OPEN HOUSE, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Pendleton Air Museum, 21 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. WWII veteran Bob Stangier and Civilian Auxiliary Doris Grover will talk with visitors in the morning, and veterans from the Korean War, Vietnam, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Desert Storm will be available in the afternoon. Check out new displays and enjoy hot beverages and cookies. Free. (Becky Dunlap 541-278-0141)

PENDLETON SENIOR MEAL SERVICE, 12-1 p.m., Pendleton Senior Center, 510 SW 10th St., Pendleton. Costs \$3.50 or \$6 for those under 60. Pool, puzzles, crafts, snacks, Second Time Around thrift store 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For Meals On Wheels, call 541-276-1926. (Tori Bowman 541-276-5073)

STORY AND CRAFT TIME, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 S. Bonanza. Echo. (541-376-8411)

VFW BINGO, 6 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry St., Hermiston. Doors open at 6 p.m., games begin at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. (541-567-6219)

games and gift shopping; tickets \$40. Saturday: Family Day, free holiday-related activities. (541-278-2627)

"RUMORS," 6:30 p.m., Pendleton High School auditorium, 1800 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton. Neil Simon comedy. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for students with ID at the door. Parental discretion advised for mild language and sound of gunshot in Act I.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT, 7-8:30 p.m., Hermiston High School auditorium, 600 S. First St., Hermiston. The Community Christmas Choir will perform holiday favorites. (541-667-5018)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., The ARC Umatilla County, 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. 25 vendors including Ruby Ribbon, Scentsy, Lu-LaRoe, Jamberry. Tastefully Simple and more. Food will be available for purchase. Free admission. (Deanna Plum 541-561-7567)

ECHO HOLIDAY BAZAAR, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Echo Community Church basement, 21 N. Bonanza St., Echo. Vendors, raffle and more. Free admission.

ST. MARY'S BAZAAR, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Mary's Catholic Church parish hall, 800 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Vendors will offer handcrafted items for holiday gift-giving. Brunch, lunch and dessert will be available for purchase. \$1 admission includes a raffle ticket. Vendor spaces

available for \$60. (Karen Moore 541-215-3464)

CHRISTMAS ART SHOW & SALE, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Oxford Suites, Hermiston. Latest work by local artists available for purchase. Free admission, refreshments served. (541-907-6212)

WILDHORSE RESORT & CASINO

12/7

Cineplex Show Times

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IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

CREED II (PG13)

1:00* 4:00 7:00 10:00

RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET (PG)

11:50* 2:20* 4:50 7:20 9:50

FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD (PG13)

12:40* 3:40* 6:40 9:40

INSTANT FAMILY (PG13)

1:30* 4:10 6:50 9:30

DR. SEUSS' THE GRINCH (PG)

12:20* 2:30* 4:40 7:10 9:20

* Matinee Pricing

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CHI St. Anthony Hospital

Winter Fest

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Evening Gala | 6:00 p.m.

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SOLD OUT

• Music, Dancing, full cash bar, table games
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Saturday DECEMBER 8th, 2018

Family Day | 10am-2pm

FREE ADMISSION

Sponsored by
Wildhorse Resort & Casino

- Lunch with Santa & his elves
- Make ornaments & playdough
- Write letters to Santa

BOTH EVENTS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE
Pendleton Convention Center

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact
St. Anthony Hospital Foundation at 541-278-2627

Proceeds benefit St. Anthony Hospital Foundation, Cason's Place Grief Support for Children & Families, and Pioneer relief nursery.
More information is available at SAHPENDLETON.ORG/WINTERFEST

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