

Byrd Schoolhouse gears up for the holidays



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan
Zack Rock hangs a wreath on the Byrd Schoolhouse at the Heritage Station Museum in Pendleton on Friday. The schoolhouse, originally built in 1879 near Pilot Rock, closed in 1940 before being relocated to the museum grounds in 1990.

Council to vote on annexation of potential new subdivision

By **JADE MCDOWELL**
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — The Hermiston City Council will consider an annexation and zoning Monday that would help clear the way for a new mixed-use subdivision on the northeast side of town.

Developers Lloyd and Lois Piercy have submitted applications to annex 36 acres at the corner of Elm Avenue and Diagonal Road into the city and change the zoning to urban commercial and medium-density residential designations.

According to a memo by City Planner Clint Spencer in the agenda packet, the Piercys’ development plan for the property includes approximately 25 acres of market-rate single family homes, approximately 6 acres of duplexes and triplexes for senior citizens, and a few additional acres

IF YOU GO

The Hermiston City Council meets at 7 p.m. on Monday at city hall, 180 N.E. Second St. The meeting will be preceded by a 6 p.m. work session, also open to the public, that will feature a legislative update from Sen. Bill Hansell. The full agenda packet can be found online at hermiston.or.us/meetings.

for a neighborhood market and other services.

In light of the application, the planning department reached out to Umatilla Electric Cooperative and has worked with the utility on including an additional 4.5 acres containing UEC’s Hermiston East substation in the annexation. The move would avoid creating an “island” of county land within the new city limits and would add the substation to the Hermiston Police Department’s jurisdiction.

In an unrelated agenda item, on Monday the coun-

cil will be asked to adopt findings of fact on their Nov. 12 decision to deny a request from Eastern Oregon Development LLC to rezone a 9-acre piece of property on Highway 395 and Northeast Fourth Street to allow mini-storage.

The council was first presented the request at its Oct. 28 meeting, and directed staff to draw up an ordinance that would approve adding a neighborhood commercial overlay to the property. When the ordinance was presented to them on Nov. 12, however, they ultimately voted

5-3 against adopting the ordinance.

According to a memo from Spencer, the council must vote to adopt the “findings of fact” supporting the denial before it becomes finalized.

The city has been working through its code of ordinances to remove or update outdated language and bring it into compliance with state law, and on Monday that effort continues with simplification of its animal ordinance and found property ordinance.

The council will also vote on a document that codifies many of the rules and operations at the Hermiston Municipal Airport that have been in practice, but were not in writing. It will also vote on a supplemental budget to close out several accounts that had been dedicated to projects that have since been completed.

Milton-Freewater man leads officers on chase through Walla Walla, College Place

By **EMILY THORNTON**
Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

WALLA WALLA, Wash. — A Milton-Freewater man led law enforcement on a high-speed vehicle and foot pursuit Thursday night. State troopers arrested Ricardo Gutierrez Lara, 24, for investigation of attempting to elude a police vehicle, and Walla Walla police

cited him for obstructing a law enforcement officer.

The chase began at 10:22 p.m., when a Washington State Patrol trooper tried pulling the man over for a traffic violation in Walla Walla, according to WSP Sgt. Justin Destito. However, Gutierrez Lara sped away, traveling up to 80 mph and turning off his lights, driving to Col-

lege Place and back, Destito said.

College Place and Walla Walla police were involved, he said, adding he terminated the pursuit at some point.

After the 4.5-mile chase, police found Gutierrez Lara in a Chrysler 300 at just after 11:30 p.m. on a home’s front yard in the 700 block of Sprague Street, Walla

Walla Police Sgt. Eric Knudson said, but the man fled on foot to McDonald’s on Ninth Avenue, where he was caught.

Destito said he didn’t believe Gutierrez Lara had any prior convictions, and it was unclear why he fled.

Emily Thornton can be reached at emilythornton@wwub.com or 509-526-8325.

BRIEFLY

Trucking Symposium coming to Pendleton

PENDLETON — All trucking professionals are invited to an industry symposium on Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Pendleton.

The Oregon Trucking Associations hosts the annual Trucking Symposium, where attendees learn about leadership, safety, human resources, operations, insurance and other aspects of the trucking industry.

According to a news release, topics covered will also include regulatory changes and government affairs affecting the trucking industry, and officials from the Oregon Department of Transportation and other agencies will be on hand to address questions directly. OTA will provide an overview of the 2019 legislative session and what is expected to take place during the 2020 session.

To learn more about the Trucking Symposium, see the full schedule or register, visit www.ortrucking.org/events or call 503-513-0005. Special prices are available for OTA members.

Heppner tests flood warning

HEPPNER — The annual test of Heppner’s flood warning system reveal the system is in good working order, according to the Morrow County Sheriff’s Office.

The office and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted a live test of the sirens at noon on Thursday, after providing advance notice via newspapers, social media, flyers and phone alerts.

The two sirens in Heppner are part of an early warning system for floods that uses rainfall collection and stream data from Balm Fork, Willow Creek above Willow Creek Dam, Shobe Creek and Hinton Creek.

A flash flood in 1903

killed 247 Heppner residents and caused hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of damage. The warning system in place is designed to prevent such a catastrophe by providing advanced notice of a possible flash flood.

Volunteers sought for serving Thanksgiving meal

PENDLETON — The local Salvation Army is looking for volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities this Thanksgiving as it serves up to an estimated 200 people a holiday meal on Nov. 28.

Major Toni Halstad of the Salvation Army in Pendleton is seeking volunteers in all areas on Thanksgiving Day, including setup and food preparation, serving and cleanup.

Available volunteer shifts include kitchen help from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.; serving food, drinks and dessert from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and cleanup from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

The free Thanksgiving meal will take place at the Salvation Army gymnasium, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave. in Pendleton.

To sign up as a volunteer, contact Major Halstad at 541-276-3369.

Thanksgiving service set Tuesday in Umapine

UMAPINE — The Umapine Seventh-day Adventist Church, 84685 Ringer Road, invites the public to share in the annual Thanksgiving service Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The “Touchet Strings,” featuring guitarist Greg Zickuhr, have been invited as musical guests this year. Other music includes classic congregation Thanksgiving hymns.

A reception will follow the service.

— EO Media Group

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RESORT & CASINO
11/22-23
Cineplex Show Times

\$5 Classic Movie
Showing Wednesday @ 12p
Monty Python and the Holy Grail

Frozen 2 (PG)
2D 12:00p* 2:20p*
4:40p 7:10p 9:40p
ED 1:20p* 4:00p

Ford v Ferrari (PG13)
12:20p* 3:30p*
6:40p 9:50p

Charlie's Angels (PG13)
1:30p* 4:10p
6:50p 9:30p

Midway (PG13)
12:10p* 3:20p*
6:20p 9:20p

Doctor Sleep (R)
6:30p 9:40p

* Matinee Pricing
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