

White Eagle Grange donates funds for music department

By TAMMY MALGESINI
For the East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The White Eagle Grange recently scored support for the Pilot Rock High School music department. Gail Wilson, the group's treasurer, said the group provided a \$250 donation to help with the repair and purchase of instruments.

Nikki Shattuck, a six-year White Eagle Grange member and current secretary, shared about the condition of the school's instruments during the Feb. 1 Grange meeting. Shattuck, who participates in the Pilot Rock High School band, said she was well aware of the need and was hoping to gain support.

"That's what the Grange is about, helping out the programs within our local



ABOUT THE RAFFLE

The raffle drawing will be held during the Saturday, July 10, breakfast at the Grange Hall, 43828 White Eagle Road, located off Highway 395 between Pilot Rock and Pendleton. The meal, which runs from 7-10 a.m., costs \$7 for ages 8 and older, \$4 for ages 5-7 and free for kids 4 and under. Tickets for the rifle raffle can be purchased in Pendleton at Les Schwab Tire Center, 1550 Southgate Place; Elite Guns & Tactical, 1400 S.W. Court Ave.; from any Grange member; or by contacting Gail Wilson at gail11wilson@gmail.com 541-310-9655.

LEFT: Nikki Shattuck, left, Pilot Rock High School senior and secretary of White Eagle Grange in Pendleton, presents a \$250 check to Pilot Rock music teacher Jacob Try on Feb. 24, 2021, for the school's music department.

White Eagle Grange/Contributed Photo

communities and programs," Shattuck said.

Wilson, a fourth-generation Granger and member since 1972, said the group attempts to provide assistance where they can.

She said while the Pilot Rock music program has a substantial need, the Grange could at least offer a little help.

The fundraising efforts of the White Eagle Grange,

Wilson said, have been somewhat stymied because of COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings. The group has been known in the past for its monthly all-you-can-eat breakfasts, which raises

money for different entities and efforts.

Wilson said when the Grange has the money or manpower, they help with such things as FFA, 4-H and Little League. In addi-

tion, they donate use of their hall for youth dances, prom parties, graduation celebrations and more. The group also supports the Main Street Cowboys through the purchase of a bench each year.

While the Grange is hoping to resume regular breakfasts in the future, they are currently raising money through raffle ticket sales for a Ruger 8500 AR-556 Semi-Auto 223 REM. A total of 500 tickets for the rifle raffle are available for \$10 each.

"Proceeds go to our youth programs and building fund," Wilson said. "The more tickets we sell the more programs we can help."

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFING

Local seniors, graduates eligible for scholarships

HERMISTON — The Red & Gena Leonard Foundation is accepting scholarship applications from students who will graduate this year or have graduated in the past or obtained a GED from Arlington, Boardman, Condon, Echo, Fossil, Heppner, Hermiston, Ione, Irrigon, Monument, Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Spray, Stanfield, Ukiah or Umatilla high schools.

Students must attend an accredited college, university, community college, vocational, trade or technical program based in Oregon; exceptions may be made if the training they seek is not offered in Oregon.

It is the intent of the Red & Gena Leonard Foundation to benefit average students of good character with poor financial circumstances who have a desire to seek further educational opportunities but, due to their lack of scholastic performance, their ability to receive scholarships may be limited.

In the selection process, priority will be given to students who: are not at the top academically; have limited financial resources; show the ability to be or become upstanding citizens; and have an interest in a trade or blue-collar type profession. Gena Leonard was a nurse by trade; to honor her we also like to offer scholarships to students attending nursing school or other medical related fields.

Applicants do not have to be current high

school graduates. The foundation has a strong interest in helping adults return to school for education or additional training to better their position in the workplace and the community.

The Red & Gena Leonard Foundation has awarded 2,707 scholarships totaling \$5.3 million, all to local students, since its inception.

Applications may be obtained online at www.leonardfoundation.org, from high school counselors, at Blue Mountain Community College, or by contacting Tracy Gammell at rglfoundation@qwestoffice.net. Deadline to submit an application is March 31.

For more information contact: Tracy Gammell, executive director, P.O. Box 1024, Hermiston, OR 97838 or email to rglfoundation@qwestoffice.net.

BMCC receives grant for teaching program

PENDLETON — Blue Mountain Community College has been awarded a Grow Your Own (GYO) grant to develop a Teacher Pathway Partnership for future LatinX teachers.

The objective of the GYO project is to work toward closing the demographic divide between students and teachers. The GYO Teacher Pathway focuses on retaining community members from diverse populations who are interested in becoming teachers and to work in their local community. Communities partnering with

the grant include Stanfield, Boardman and Milton-Freewater.

BMCC will utilize the grant money to conduct a three-day virtual workshop on May 14-16, called the 2-Teach Institute. BMCC has partnered with local high schools to recruit students for this pathway. Participants will be introduced to the field of education, as well as foster teaching practices in alignment with the Oregon Department of Education's Equity Initiatives.

Students will also have the opportunity to network with faculty from BMCC's education program and learn more about continuing their educational path at BMCC. Tammy Short, director of early childhood education at BMCC, said the GYO program contributes to BMCC's mission of providing responsive and high quality innovative educational programs that serve the local communities.

"Through this opportunity, we will be able to remove barriers for students who are interested in pursuing a degree in the field of education," she said.

The BMCC 2-Teach Institute, which is open to 25 participants, is free. Students will receive a laptop and other distance learning tools. Upon successful completion, participants will receive three BMCC credits. The program provides an opportunity to assist students in taking steps toward achieving an academic goal toward teaching and motivation to move forward in the pathway as a future educator in

rural Oregon communities.

For more information, contact Short at 541-278-5941, tshort@bluecc.edu or visit www.bluecc.edu/education.

Youth organizations have option for fundraisers

PENDLETON — For the seventh year in a row, youth-focused organizations in the region can earn up to \$1,000 through US Cellular's Community Connections program. Whether it's STEM programs, sports teams, marching bands, dance teams, arts or a variety of other groups, organizers can sign up at uscellular.com/communityconnections and start earning money for their activity, 100% virtually.

Once registered online, nonprofit groups representing youth from kindergarten up to 12th grade have 14 days to rally their friends, families and social followers to complete digital activities like watching a video or following US Cellular on its social channels to earn funds. Each completed activity earns money that goes directly to the organization.

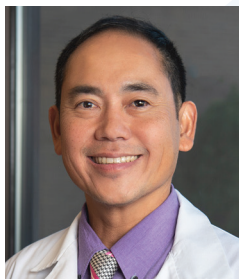
Since launching the program in 2015, U.S. Cellular has awarded more than \$1.4 million to 3,100 groups nationwide to support their needs from equipment purchases to field trips. For more information, and to view the official rules, visit uscellular.com/communityconnections.

—EO Media Group

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FREE Colorectal Cancer Pre-Screening Kits Available March 15th & 29th

Colorectal cancer, the **2nd leading cause of cancer death**, can be detected early through screenings such as a colonoscopy or a Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT).

The Tri-Cities Cancer Center will provide free Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT) that are FDA cleared to screen for colorectal cancer at our satellite office in Hermiston. FIT is a simple, self-administered test that checks for hidden blood in your stool and provides quick results.

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March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month