

# Finding courage to embrace our changing world



CHRIS HANKEL

## LIVING ON PURPOSE

the grave for three days was a dead giveaway that things were never going to be the same. Change was inevitable. There was no returning to the fishing nets or the accounting books for these guys. They embraced the “new normal” and, in the process, changed the world forever.

The Apostle Paul’s words to the Philippians in Chapter 3 are an encouragement to embrace change. He says, “Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead; I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God’s heavenly call in Christ Jesus.”

C.S. Lewis put it this way: “It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.”

I know the prospect of a changing future creates consternation for many of us, but what if what lies ahead is better than what lies behind? What is that one thing in the past you are holding onto that may be keeping you from reaching forward to what is ahead?

Don’t allow fear of the future to turn you into a bad egg and keep you from all the beautiful possibilities change can bring.

*Chris Hankel is the lead pastor at New Hope Community Church in Hermiston.*

# PHS grad soars with NASA student program

By TAMMY MALGESINI  
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — Born 10 weeks premature in Eugene, Kristen Gregg has been thriving ever since.

A junior at Montana State University in Bozeman, the 2018 Pendleton High School graduate is majoring in chemistry. Gregg was recently notified that she’s one of 28 students from across the country to be chosen for the 13th annual NASA Student Airborne Science Program (SARP).

Coordinated by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the nine-week internship is designed to provide students with hands-on research experience — from detailed planning on how to achieve mission objectives to formal presentation of results and conclusions to peers and others.

Gregg is excited about the opportunity to participate in the program. She said the hands-on research and activities will expose her to different areas of science. The experience, Gregg said, will assist her in making a decision regarding what she ultimately wants to focus on.

PHS science instructor Jess Cooper, Gregg said, was instrumental piquing her interest in science. His teaching style, she said, made it simple to understand and that’s when things really clicked for her.

“I have wanted to be a scientist since I was a kid,” Gregg said. “I took Mr. Cooper’s chemistry class in high school and along the way I developed a deeper passion for science.”

And Gregg isn’t the only



Gregg

one who’s thrilled. The daughter of Mike Gregg and Jenny Barnett of Pendleton, her mother said they are extremely proud and very excited about the opportunity for their daughter.

“Her work effort is paying off,” Barnett said. “I think she will learn a lot about the scientific process and job opportunities for scientists and I hope the experience will help her figure out what she wants to do after college.”

Because of the global pandemic, the NASA Airborne Science Program was held virtually in 2020, and this summer’s session will follow suit. Instead of gathering in person as a group, last year’s students conducted a variety of research on their local environments. Among their activities, they used aerosol sensors to take air samples from their locations to track and study how pandemic closures impacted

changing emissions.

Students also formed research groups for different projects, as well as logging in for virtual lectures featuring SARP alumni who shared about their careers and research. Guest presentations also included NASA astronauts.

With an ultimate goal of getting a doctorate degree, Gregg enjoys academia. She is interested in a career as a college professor with a research lab, which she said would be a perfect combination.

“I love teaching and helping people understand, but I also love to learn myself,” she said.

Gregg, who was involved in a variety of music programs while in Pendleton, currently plays in the Montana State University Symphony. In her spare time, she also enjoys outdoor recreation opportunities, including snowboarding.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFING

### DVS plans annual walk ‘In Her Shoes’

HERMISTON — Registration is open online for the seventh annual walk “In Her Shoes,” beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 24, and running through noon on the walking path around the Good Shepherd Medical Center campus, 610 N.W. 11th St.

The annual event gives community members a chance to experience the choices facing a domestic violence victim, and serves as a fundraiser for Domestic Violence Services Inc., serving Umatilla and Morrow counties since 1977.

Participants will walk through a series of stations that pose a domestic violence situation and the choices, barriers and decisions victims must face. Those visiting the walk will need a

smartphone or tablet to scan QR codes at each station. Bottled water, disinfecting wipes, sanitizer, disposable masks and gloves will be available for all participants, and all transactions will be hands-free.

Visit <https://event.auctria.com/19f04aa3-5aef-4c19-9d32-3305c2556b9b/> to register. The \$15 registration fee includes a T-shirt, and a mystery goody bag for the first 20 to sign up.

### Something for everyone at the Hermiston library

HERMISTON — People of all ages can find activities to engage their mind, challenge their skills and invoke a sense of wonder in May at the Hermiston Public Library, 235 E. Gladys Ave.

Children and adults are

invited to stop by the library for craft kits and ideas. Adults can create a “Hanging Tin Can Bumblebee” beginning May 4; kids can pick up the monthly craft kit during the week of May 17, while supplies last. Each kit includes instructions and supplies.

Virtual storytime happens each Thursday on the library’s Facebook page. The storytime also includes instructions for the monthly craft activity, available at the library.

The coloring activity for the Summer Reading Program mural will wrap up on May 31. Kids can pick up a coloring page at the library beginning Thursday, May 6, and return it by the end of the month with first name and age to receive a free bowling pass, while supplies last. This year’s reading program begins on June 21 with the

theme “Reading Colors Your World.”

Exhibits abound in May, including a Smithsonian traveling exhibit featuring women inventors and the oil paintings of Bryce Southerland of Irrigon, both on display in the library through the end of the month.

And an online collection of poems, short stories and art honoring U.S. troops will be available on the library’s social media pages through the month of May. Library patrons are encouraged to submit Memorial Day tributes, either via Facebook Messenger or emailed to [chawkins@hermiston.or.us](mailto:chawkins@hermiston.or.us). Submissions will be eligible for prizes. Entries don’t have to appear online.

For more information on May library activities, visit the Facebook page or call 541-567-2882.

—EO Media Group

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