Donald Lee Bennett

May 8, 1933 — Nov. 16, 2021

Echo

Bennett

Donald Lee Bennett, of Echo, passed away on Nov. 16, 2021, at the age of 88. Don was born on May 8,

1933, to J.W. and Marie Bennett and lived the earliest years of his life on the family cattle and wheat ranch near Winona, Washington. He had many fond memories of growing up with his three brothers in the Palouse wheat country.

Don's parents relocated their family farm-

ing business to Oakville, Washington, when he was a sophomore in high school. He participated on several sports teams and graduated in 1951.

Don served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956 as a unit clerk in Korea. After his honorable discharge, Don returned to the family farm. In September 1956, Don married Phyllis Neace and together they raised two sons, Darryl and Dwayne.

Don spent five years living in Wallowa, Oregon, operating a commercial ranch until 1976 when he relocated his family to Hermiston, where he would live and work the remainder of his life. Don and his twin brother, Doug, went into business together, founding the Oregon Hereford Ranch, a purebred Hereford cattle and farming operation. The ranch was located just south of Hermiston on Buttercreek, where it thrived for over 40 years.

Don had been involved

in several cattle organizations throughout his life, including the Shorthorn, Hereford and Black Angus Associations. Don had a passion for farming the land and looked forward to

each new season of crops and harvests. Don was honored in 2007 by Oregon State Universi-

ty's College of Agricultural Sciences for his lifetime achievement in Oregon agriculture.

Don is survived by his wife, Phyllis, of 65 years; twin brother, Doug of Echo; sons, Darryl of Hermiston and Dwayne of Kennewick; four grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Don was preceded in death by two older brothers, Bill and Jack

A private family graveside service was held at the Hermiston Cemetery, Hermiston, Oregon.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Don's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice.

Please share memories of Don with his family at www.burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon, is in care of arrangements.

COURTS

Sentences

The following criminal sentences have been imposed in Umatilla County Circuit Court:

Sandra Jane Ribera, 36, of Pendleton, was convicted of a 2021 charge of driving under the influence of intoxicants; sentenced to one year suspension of driving license, two years probation, two days in county jail and \$1,500 in fees.

Kevin Ricardo Melendez, 27, of Hermiston, pleaded guilty to 2021 charges of second-degree robbery, unlawful use of a weapon, second-degree abuse of corpse in the, conspiracy and menacing; sentenced to four years in the Oregon Department of Corrections and four years proba-

There were no criminal sentences during the last week in Morrow County Circuit Court.

Lawsuits

The following lawsuits have been filed in Umatilla County Circuit Court (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

Lydia Grace Wheeler vs. Premier Motors and Danny Freeman, all of Milton-Freewater, seeks \$3,599.03.

The following lawsuits have been filed in Morrow County Circuit Court (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

John Patterson, Karen Patterson vs Jewell Manufacturing, Inc., Jurajaka, an Oregon Partnership, James L. Kirkpatrick, Katherine M. Kirkpatrick, for easements.

Marriages

Marriage licenses have been registered in Umatilla **County for:**

James Robert Reser, 33, and Meagan Rianda Davison, 28, both of Umatilla.

Peter Jonathon Bradley Cogswell, 25, and Jennifer Parthenia Lewis, 18, both of Athena.

Dawn R. Tickal, 57, and Michael David Thunberg, 61,

both of Hermiston. Robert Shawn Mahon, 42, and Catherine Melissa

Devoe, 42, both of Pendleton. Rain Jozef Wheeler, 24, and Damariz Santiago Garcia,

27, both of Milton-Freewater.

Emma Taylor Bennett, 21, and Kyera Lynn Mackey, 22, both of Hermiston.

MEETINGS

Monday, Dec. 20

Columbia Development Authority, 11 a.m., via Zoom or teleconference. For login information and agenda, visit www.umadra.com. May include an executive session to discuss property negotiations. (541-481-3693)

Weston City Council work session, 3 p.m., Weston City Hall, 114 E. Main St. (541-566-3313)

Echo School District Board, 6 p.m., staff room, 600 Gerone St. Emergency meeting. (541-376-8436)

Tuesday, Dec. 21

Pendleton Development Commission, 6 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave. (Charles Denight 541-966-0233)

Pendleton City Council, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (541-966-0201)

East Umatilla County Health District, 7 p.m., district office, 431 E. Main St., Athena. (541-566-3813)

Pilot Rock City Council, 7 p.m., Pilot Rock City Hall,

Sixth St. (Nancy Sandoval 541-922-3226 ext. 105)

143 W. Main St. (541-443-2811)

Umatilla City Council, 7 p.m., Umatilla City Hall, 700

Thursday, Dec. 23 Salvation Army Advisory Board, noon, Salvation Army, 150 S.E. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (541-276-3369)

Voices: Public Speaking 101

By CAROLEE KOLVE

Special to the East Oregonian

In my junior year in high school, my mother fashioned herself as my college admissions coach. She decreed that I needed something besides grades and SAT scores. I needed to become a school leader. "No athletic skill, no musical talent, only mundane summer jobs," she told me, shaking her head sadly.

"But no track record for leadership either!" I said.

"Yet," she replied. To make it more improbable, I had just switched from a small girls' school to a large public school. Not only did I know no one, but I regularly came home from school in tears because I had eaten lunch by myself. How was I to transition from pathetic loner to school leader?

It was my junior year, and I took a stab. I ran for the lowest possible office: student body secretary. And lost. My entire campaign consisted of two posters. If anyone even saw them, they were certainly not persuaded to "Take a chance with Carolee Nance." A slogan that was neither aspirational nor inspirational, although it did rhyme. My father later explained that I had dodged a poetic bullet. In his day, kids had chanted, "Nance has ants in his pants."

But my senior year, there was another election. This time my mother said, "This is your last hope, so you have to run for something which involves giving a speech."

"Huh? I've never given a speech and I am terrified to even speak up in class."

My mother decreed that I would be a natural. A natural? She had only ever given one speech herself, so how did she know?

She assured me she knew everything there was to know about speech-making as she had just purchased "The Art of Public Speaking" by Dale Carnegie. Of course, she hadn't read it yet.

But first I had to decide what to run for. It had to be either student body president or girls' vice president. Student body president was too long a shot, so I chose girls' VP. The girls' veep also was president of the Girls' League a loose organization of all the girls in the school. So far, no one seemed to know what this body of females actually did.

I figured out that I needed some ideas, so I polled the girls I had gotten to know. Between us, we determined that a body of several hundred young women could probably do some significant things, and so far they were just an idle clump of girls. I asked everyone, "What would you enjoy doing?" I heard ideas about school dances, good deeds in the community, ways to raise money. I thought back to the girls' school I had just left their traditions and activities.

I tested ideas on other girls. People nodded and smiled. My confidence was nudging up!

And then I learned about my competition.

I only had one opponent. She was the most popular girl in the school. She was in an elite club of other popular girls, who were all promoting her campaign. She was beautiful, slender, with stylish clothes and cascades of dark wavy hair. The week after the upcoming election was a school dance, and somehow everyone knew she would be attending with the handsome football and baseball star who was about to be elected Student Body President. Clearly, they were the "star couple." Two dazzling winners in a sea of also-rans.

Undaunted, my mother began my speech coaching, paraphrasing loosely from Dale Carnegie, or at least from the table of contents. There were some rules, but mostly it seemed to be common sense: 1. Know your audience; 2. Engage them; and 3. Give them a reason to vote for you.

I had some good ideas and wrote my speech with actual confidence. I practiced. I

ANYONE CAN WRITE

Nearly 40 years in the business have taught me that readers are bombarded and overwhelmed with facts. What we long for, though, is meaning and a connection at a deeper and more universal level.

And that's why the East Oregonian will be running, from time to time, stories from students who are in my writing class, which I've been teaching for the past 10 years in Portland.

I take great satisfaction in helping so-called nonwriters find and write stories from their lives and experiences. They walk into my room believing they don't have what it takes to be a writer. I remind them if they follow their hearts, they will discover they are storytellers.

As we all are at our core.

Some of these stories have nothing to do with Pendleton or Umatilla County. They do, however, have everything to do with life.

If you are interested in contacting me to tell me your story, I'd like to hear from you.

{p style="text-align: right;"}Tom Hallman Jr., tbhbook@aol.com

Tom Hallman Jr. is a Pulitzer Prize-winning feature writer for The Oregonian newspaper. He's also a writing coach and has an affinity for Umatilla County.

smiled. I made eye contact with my imaginary audience. My dog, Heidi, listened attentively. Perhaps she only feigned interest? My cat hid under the couch.

On the big day, I put on my best pleated skirt and white sweater. I attempted to deal with my wild hair, kinked up from ill-considered pin curls. Oh well. I grabbed my speech and my attention-getting prop, and off I went.

As we arrived, the candidates gathered on stage. I looked around, and my jaw

My opponent was dressed in the most dazzling outfit I had ever seen. A tight sweater and skirt made entirely of pink angora. As she walked the little tufts of fluff floated and waved all around her. She looked like some sort of pink fuzz goddess.

The assembly began, and she was asked to go first. She stepped to the podium, and she said: "The purpose of these speeches is for you to hear us speak and see what we look like. So first ... I'll

show you what I look like." With that, she left the podium, went to center stage, held her arms out like a ballerina, and did a slow rotation. As she moved, her angora fluffs swayed in the spotlight. She was impossibly graceful, gorgeous, and the boys went crazy. They stomped and cheered, creating additional breezes for her waving fuzz.

Finally, she returned to the podium and read the speech that no one would ever remember.

My turn. I pulled out my "attention getter," a bunch of bananas, and said, "The Girls League is not just a bunch of girls clumped together like these bananas!" I smiled, and I felt a connection like I had never felt before. All my jitters disappeared, and I never had to look at my notes. I shared ideas with them, and I knew they were listening. Everyone was smiling, and I was on top of the world. I was also pretty sure of the outcome.

My opponent was gorgeous, and the boys loved her. But she had overlooked the first rule of public speak-

Because, of course, for Girls' League president? Only the girls voted.

ing. The audience rules.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Wednesday, Dec. 15

7:10 a.m. — Pendleton police and emergency services responded to Southeast Court Place and 10th Street for a vehicle crash. Police issued a citation.

10:12 a.m. — Roundup City Plumbing, 818 Airport Road, Pendleton, reported the theft of a vehicle. Police responded and took a report.

12:12 p.m. — A caller reported a disturbance at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 77514 Highway 207, Hermiston. 1:11 p.m. — Pendle-

ton police responded to the Pendleton Animal Welfare Shelter, 517 S.E. Third St., on a report of an attempted burglary. 1:14 p.m. — Miltion-

Freewater police received a report of a break-in and theft of money and items at Drip N Dry Laundry, 103 S. Main St.

2:03 p.m. — A person asked to speak to a Hermiston police officer, claiming Hermiston police gave the wrong name in connection to a case in Yakima.

11:47 p.m. — A 911 caller on Umatilla River Road, Hermiston, reported a vehicle rolled. The caller did not know if anyone was injured.

11:59 p.m. — A caller reported the theft of a vehicle at Tri-Harbor Landing Apartments, 210 Klickitat St., Umatilla.

Thursday, Dec. 16

7:44 a.m. — A Morrow County sheriff's deputy contacted the owner of two horses because they were walking in the road on West Oregon Lane, Irrigon.

11:02 a.m. — Hermiston police responded to the 1600 block of West Sunland Avenue on a report of an assault.

11:42 a.m. — A man told Hermiston police someone broke into his 2002 Ford Expedition in an apartment complex parking lot on Southwest 13th Place and stole a welding machine.

12:15 p.m. — A caller at Port View Apartments, 320 Columbia Ave. N.E., Boardman, reported a friend was throwing herself against things and he was trying to prevent her from harming herself. Police and emergency services responded.

3:17 p.m. — A caller at outheast Isaac Avenue and Second Street, Pendleton, reported detaining a large black Labrador mix with a teal colored collar. He said would wait near his vehicle.

3:35 p.m. — Pendleton police received a complaint

about fraud on Northeast

Mount Hebron Drive. Police took a report. 3:53 p.m. — A resident on Northeast Fourth Street, Hermiston, reported her

friend's ex is sitting in a

vehicle outside the apart-4:11 p.m. — Pendleton police responded to May Park, 180 S.E. Isaac Ave.,

on a report of an assault. 4:55 p.m. — A caller reported a vehicle theft at Vista Village Mobile Home Park, 2801 S.W. Houtama Road, Pendleton. Police took a report.

5:27 p.m. — Pendleton police responded to the 400 block of Southwest Isaac Avenue on a call about a burglary. Police took a report.

8:11 p.m. — A resident on Southeast Utah Avenue, Irrigon, reported hearing a loud boom that rattled the windows of his home. The caller said it could have been a firework or homemade bomb. The Morrow County Sheriff's Office checked the area but turned up nothing.

9:43 p.m. — Pendleton police responded to The Saddle Restaurant And Lounge, 2220 S.E. Court Ave., on a report of a fight.

Arrests, citations

Dec. 15

• Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Ethan Alan Pinkham, 37, for possession of a stolen vehicle and violating parole. • Hermiston police

arrested Curtiss Robert Pullum, 53, for misdemeanor methamphetamine possession, felony meth delivery and violating parole. • Umatilla Tribal Police

arrested Irma Taeyana Bako, 25, for assault and domestic abuse. Hermiston police

arrested Curtiss Robert Pullum, 53, on a parole violation, misdemeanor methamphetamine possession and felony meth delivery.

Dec. 16

• Umatilla Tribal Police arrested James Douglas Sproed, 51, for driving under the influence of intoxicants and attempted assault of a public safety officer.

• Umatilla Tribal Police arrested Sydonia David 21 for violating a restraining order, felony assault, domestic abuse and on a warrant.

• Pendleton police arrested James Lloyd Waligorski, 30, for vehicle

BIRTHS

CHI St. Anthony Hospital, Pendleton Dec. 11, 2021

MONTGOMERY — Ashley Cleland of Pendleton and Steven Montgomery of Lakeview: a boy, Leif Adrian

Montgomery. **Good Shepherd Medical Center, Hermiston** Dec. 7, 2021

PENA — Brook Pena and Anthony Pena Jr. of Hermiston: a girl, Aliyah Pena. Dec. 12, 2021

RETH — Alexis Rae Reth and Samnang Reth of Herm-

iston: a boy, Dayrany Samnang Reth. Dec. 14, 2021 **BOESCH** — Karlee Boesch and Justin Boesch of Umatilla: a girl, Lily Marie Boesch.

LOTTERY

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021

Megabucks 13-34-38-42-43-48

Jackpot: \$7.1 million **Lucky Lines** 3-6-10-16-19-24-27-31 Estimated jackpot:

\$47,000 **Powerball** 19-20-40-42-59 Powerball: 15 Power Play: 3

Jackpot: \$353 million Win for Life

FEEL THE SPEED,

1 p.m.: 6-8-8-2 4 p.m.: 9-8-5-6 7 p.m.: 0-6-5-2 10 p.m.: 3-4-3-4

Lucky Lines

4 p.m.: 4-5-3-4

7 p.m.: 2-0-5-5

10 p.m.: 5-6-7-7

37-58-75-77

Pick 4

2-5-12-16-20-23-26-31 Jackpot: \$48,000 Pick 4 1 p.m.: 6-9-6-0

Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021

EVEN AT PEAK TIMES.

